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BOROUGH OF OLDBURY



REPORT

on the

Health of Oldbury

For the Year 1963

Borough



of Oldbury


ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
Medical Officer of Health
and
CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR
For the Year 1963.

Medical Officer of Health:
HENRY TABBUSH, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector:
WILLIAM J. MASON, M.A.P.H.I.

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BOROUGH OF OLDBURY

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COUNCILLOR W. CARTER, *Vice-Chairman.*

ALDERMAN A. GUNN.

ALDERMAN S. T. MELSOM, O.B.E., J.P., C.A.

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COUNCILLOR MRS. E. PINE, M.B.E.

COUNCILLOR R. PLANT.

COUNCILLOR MRS. R. STARKIE, C.C.

HEALTH AND WELFARE COMMITTEE, 31st DECEMBER, 1963.

COUNCILLOR W. CARTER, *Chairman.*

ALDERMAN S. T. MELSOM, O.B.E., J.P., C.A., *Vice-Chairman.*

ALDERMAN J. W. BRIGHT, J.P., C.A.

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COUNCILLOR F. GILES, C.C.

COUNCILLOR J. HUGHES.

COUNCILLOR MRS. E. PINE, M.B.E.

COUNCILLOR MRS. R. STARKIE, C.C.

Co-opted Members:

MRS. W. S. PETERS.

ALDERMAN B. T. ROBBINS, J.P., C.C.

H. ROBERTS, Esq., M.D. (Liverpool), M.B., Ch.B.,
M.R.C.O.G., F.R.C.S.

STAFF OF THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT:

Medical Officer of Health:

HENRY TABBUSH, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Deputy Medical Officer of Health:

R. F. JOANES, M.B., B.S., D.P.H.

Assistant Medical Officer:

Divisional Dental Officer:

D. M. HOBBS, B.D.S.

ALMA M. FACER, L.D.S. (Part-time).

Ophthalmic Specialist (Part-time):

GUY F. G. SIGGINS, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.O.M.S.

Chief Public Health Inspector:

WILLIAM J. MASON, M.A.P.H.I. (a.b.i.)

Deputy Chief—J. N. COPE, M.A.P.H.I. (a.b.)

Additional—F. J. ANDREWS, M.A.P.H.I. (a.b.)

E. N. JAMES, M.A.P.H.I. (a.b.)

C. C. WILKES, M.A.P.H.I. (a.b.)

J. A. JEAVONS (a.b.)

Area Nursing Officer:

MISS M. R. CLARKE, (c.d.e.)

Health Visitor—School Nurses:

MISS H. STANSFIELD (c.d.e.) (Retired 30.11.63)

MISS A. M. T. SHANAHAN (c.d.e.) MISS B. M. LAMB (c.d.e.)

MRS. J. MORETON (c.d.e.j.) MRS. J. BUTLER (c.d.e.)

MISS K. A. STEANE (c.d.e.j.) (Commenced 14.9.63)

Tuberculosis Visitor:

MRS. A. MURRAY (e.).

MRS. M. ASHPLANT (e) (From 1.8.63 to 30.9.63)

Municipal Midwives:

NURSE B. EWINGS (d.e.) NURSE U. A. AUSTIN (d.e.)

„ H. GALLAGHER (d.) „ P. COX (d.e.)

„ A. M. WILLIAMS (d.) (Resigned 30.6.63)

„ M. CRITCHLEY (d.e.) „ M. R. BALA (d.e.)
(Commenced 18.12.63)

District Nurses:

MRS. S. J. GALLAGHER (e.)	MRS. E. M. CUTLER (e.)
„ D. GRAHAM (e.j.)	„ G. M. NOCK (d.e.j.)
(Resigned 31.3.63)	„ M. J. WORTON (d.e.)
„ H. BAKER (g.)	„ M. ROSS (e.)
Miss M. BASTERFIELD (g.)	(Commenced 23.9.63)

Mental Health Officers:

R. D. MANDERS.	J. FALKINGHAM (Resigned 19.2.63)
P. J. BREWER (Commenced 1.4.63)	

Welfare Officer:

H. TAYLOR

Home Teacher for the Blind:

Miss A. SWAN.

Chiropodists:

D. A. HAYWARD, M.Ch.S.	R. SHAW, M.Ch.S.
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Clerical Staff:

HEALTH:

Chief Clerk—S. ASTLEY	Senior Clerk—T. K. BOSTON
MRS. M. E. DEAKIN	MRS. I. HINTON
(Shorthand-Typist)	(Resigned 31.12.63)
„ S. STUCKEY	MRS. J. A. TURNER
„ E. L. WHITE	MISS M. JONES
Miss L. NASH (Commenced 25.11.63)	

SANITARY:

Chief Clerk—L. WHITTARD

MRS. M. A. JAMES (Shorthand-Typist)	Miss V. E. SWALLOW
Miss V. WALLACE (Shorthand-Typist) (Resigned 10.12.63)	
J. CUTLER, Cleansing Depot, (Weighbridge Clerk)	

NOTES.

- (a) Holds the Public Health Inspectors' Certificate.
- (b) Holds the Meat and Foods Inspectors' Certificate granted by the Royal Society of Health.
- (c) Holds the Health Visitors' Certificate approved by the Ministry of Health.
- (d) Holds the Midwives' Certificate granted by the Central Midwives Board.
- (e) State Registered Nurse.
- (f) Holds the Midwives Teachers' Diploma.
- (g) State Enrolled Assistant Nurse.
- (h)
- (i) Honours Certificate of the Institute of Hygiene.
- (j) Queen's Institute of District Nursing.
- (k) Holds the Smoke Inspectors' Certificate granted by the Royal Society of Health.

BOROUGH OF OLDBURY.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health.

For the Year 1963.

To the Mayor, Aldermen, and Councillors of the
Borough of Oldbury.

Madam Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my annual report on the health of the Borough for the year 1963.

Vital Statistics.

The Infant Mortality Rate of 16.37 per 1,000 live births is the lowest ever recorded for the Borough and compares favourably with the rate of 20.9 for England and Wales. The Perinatal Mortality Rate, which takes into account both still-births and neonatal deaths, was 24.16 per 1,000 total births, again the lowest rate recorded for the Borough, and a marked improvement on the rate of 44.86 for the previous year. In dealing with relatively small numbers one may expect fairly wide fluctuations without any obvious cause. There has been no change in the maternity services to which this decreased mortality could be related. The proportion of domiciliary to hospital confinements has remained unchanged.

One in every five of the 559 deaths which occurred during the year was due to coronary disease of the heart and a further 30 people died from cancer of the lung. Both of these diseases occur much more frequently in cigarette smokers than in non-smokers. The dangers to health of cigarette smoking must, by now, be widely recognised, but the consumption of tobacco shows no signs of diminishing. It would be interesting to know what psychological factors induce men to deliberately risk shortening their lives in this way. We are none of us immune from "the slings and arrows of outrageous fortune" and it may be that in times of difficulty smoking is an alternative to a nervous breakdown or committing suicide, but unfortunately the habit once formed is difficult to break and continues long after the need for such consolation has disappeared. Every smoker should carefully consider whether he really

needs this "psychological crutch." If he feels he can dispense with it, he would be well advised to stop smoking. All the evidence shows that even in those who have smoked for many years, the probability of dying from cancer of the lung or coronary disease diminishes when cigarette smoking is discontinued.

Infectious Diseases.

Tuberculosis is not now considered to be news-worthy when compared with disease such as smallpox or typhoid, but the fact remains that there are approximately 20,000 notifications annually in England and Wales and 3,000 deaths. The figures are far in excess of any produced by any other infectious disease. Proposals to close the local Chest Clinics and transfer their functions to Out-patient departments of General Hospitals will lead to a loss of the valuable co-operation in preventive work between the Health Department and the Chest Clinic—and should be resisted. There were five deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis during the year, all in men over the age of 55 years.

Measles reached its expected epidemic proportions during the year. The time should not be far off when a suitable and safe vaccine will be available for the prevention of this disease. The level of immunisation against Diphtheria and Whooping Cough was well maintained and there were no notifications of the former and only 68 cases of Whooping Cough were notified. There were no outbreaks of Dysentery or Food Poisoning during the year.

Clinics.

The attendances at all the Infant Welfare Clinics increased during the year. With newly developed housing estates at Lion Farm and Brandhall and prospects of an increasing birth-rate the need for new clinics in these areas is becoming increasingly urgent. It will also be necessary to replace existing facilities in the town centre with a purpose-built clinic.

Unmarried Mothers.

The Illegitimate Live Birth rate has shown a marked increase during the past three years. Without entering into the moral aspects of this problem, there can be little doubt that instruction for young people in contraceptive techniques would help to prevent many tragedies from unwanted pregnancies.

Co-operation with General Practitioners.

With a limited Health Visiting staff and a wide geographical distribution of the patients of General Practitioners in the area, it has not been found practicable to allocate any Health Visitors to particular practices. However, in a relatively small borough such as Oldbury, personal contacts between the Health Department and the general practitioners can be and are very effective in bringing to those in need of them the medical and social services provided

by the local authority. The provision of Health Centres with a corresponding geographical limitation of the area of a doctor's practice would enable local authorities to allocate Health Visitors, Midwives and District Nurses to work closely with particular General Practitioners without having to increase the numbers of nurses employed and the distances they would have to travel. The economical use of the time of domiciliary nurses is of the greatest importance at a time when recruitment to maintain even the present establishment is difficult.

Welfare Services.

Care of the Elderly. Although Health Visitors do call on the elderly in special circumstances, it has not been possible for them to undertake regular visiting owing to the pressure of their other duties. However, the Old People's Welfare Committee has been able to arrange for contact to be made with old people who desire it by members of organisations represented on the Committee. In this way many needs have been discovered and met. There is a growing awareness in the community of the needs of the elderly and offers of help from many sources are increasing.

Welfare of the Blind and Handicapped.

A happy combination of voluntary and statutory services is enabling us to give a high level of service and provide many social amenities to people suffering from differing disabilities. With the Oldbury Branch of the Worcestershire Association for the Blind and the Adventurers' Club for the Physically Disabled supplementing the services provided by the Health and Welfare Committee the needs of these groups are being adequately met.

Mental Health Service.

In view of the long delay being experienced in obtaining admission to the Netherend Occupation Centre, the County Council authorised the Health and Welfare Committee to send up to 7 children to the Albert Bradford Centre in Smethwick. This has been of considerable assistance in reducing our waiting list. There are no provisions as yet for an adult training centre in the area. The Psychiatric Clinic, which is held every Tuesday afternoon, is of great value in promoting close co-operation between the Consultants, General Practitioners and Local Authority.

Housing.

During the year, of the 190 new lettings, 134 were allocated for slum clearance purposes. We were thus able to take full advantage of the generous allocation made by the Housing Committee to enable us to make progress in getting rid of unfit houses. With a prospect of a greatly increased production of dwellings in 1964 it is to be hoped that every effort will be made to achieve a corresponding increase in the rate of representation of unfit houses.

Staff.

It is with great regret that we had to accept the retirement of Miss Stansfield, our longest serving Health Visitor. She joined the Health Department Staff in 1930 and in her 34 years of service has made many friends in the Borough. Her talents will now be devoted to voluntary service, since she is far too energetic to take a well-earned rest.

The death of Mr. H. Taylor, the district Welfare Officer, was keenly felt by the department. For many years Mr. Taylor served the interests of the aged and the mentally or physically handicapped both in the field and by serving on voluntary committees and his quiet, unobtrusive humanity will be missed.

I would like to acknowledge with gratitude the help and understanding I have received from the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee and of the Health and Welfare Committee, and to take this opportunity of expressing my gratitude to the staff of the Health Department, medical, nursing and clerical, for their loyal co-operation, and to my colleagues in other Departments, who have been helpful at all times.

I am.

Madam Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

HENRY TABBUSH,

Medical Officer of Health.

Health and Welfare Department,

Greenwood Avenue,

Langley, Oldbury.

July, 1964.

Tel. No.: BROadwell 2041/2

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

Name	Situation	Sessions	Accommodation
Oldbury I.W.	Wesley Street, Oldbury	Monday, 2 p.m.	Consulting, Infant Weighing and Wait- ing Rooms
Langley I.W.	" The Hollies," Langley	Wednesday and Friday, 2 p.m.	do.
Warley I.W.	Bleakhouse Rd., Warley	Tuesday and Thursday, 2 p.m.	do.
Oldbury A.N.	Wesley Street, Oldbury	Alternate Fridays, 2 p.m.	Consulting and Wait- ing Rooms
Langley A.N.	" The Hollies," Langley	Alternate Thurs., 2 p.m.	do.
School Clinic	Tabernacle Clinic, Oldbury	M.O. and Nurse Daily, 9—9-30 a.m.	Consulting, Treatment and Waiting Rooms
School Clinic	Bleakhouse Rd., Warley	M.O. and Nurse Daily, 9—9-30 a.m.	do.
School Clinic	" The Hollies," Langley	M.O. and Nurse Daily, 9—9-30 a.m.	do.
Dental Clinic, S.M.S.	Tabernacle Clinic, Oldbury	Thursday, 9—4-30 p.m. Friday, 9—12 noon.	do.
Dental Clinic, S.M.S.	Bleakhouse Rd., Warley	Daily, 9—5 p.m.	do.
Scabies Clinic	Cleansing Station, Brookfields Rd., Langley	By appointment	Treatment and Wait- ing Rooms
Ophthalmic Clinic	Bleakhouse Rd., Warley	Friday, 9 a.m. Alternate Wed. 1-30 p.m.	Consulting, Treatment and Waiting Rooms
Sunray Clinic	" The Hollies," Langley	Tuesday, 2 p.m.	Treatment and Wait- ing Rooms
Chest Clinic	Greenwood Av. Langley	Monday, 11—12-30 p.m. and 2—4 p.m. Friday, 11—12 noon	Consulting and Wait- ing Rooms
Psychiatric Clinic	do.	Tuesday, 2—4 p.m.	do.

1.—GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area (acres)	3,304
Population (Registrar-General's Estimate Mid-1963)...	54,280
Population (Census 1961)	53,948
Number of inhabited dwellings (Census 1961) ...	16,354
Number of inhabited dwellings at 31.12.63 ...	16,990
Rateable value (1st April, 1963)	£2,295,476
Sum represented by a penny rate (Estimated) ...	£9,300
General Rate—1963-64	8s. 10d.

Unemployment—31st December, 1963:—

Wholly unemployed—

Men and Boys	110
Women and Girls	49

Temporary stoppage—

Men and Boys	22
Women and Girls	Nil

2.—EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR

				M.	F.	Total
Live Births {	Legitimate	...	...	405	399	804
	Illegitimate	...	...	30	21	51
		Totals	...	<hr/> 435	<hr/> 420	<hr/> 855

Birth-rate per 1,000 of the population 15.75

Area Comparability-Factor (Births) 0.99 Standardised Birth-rate ... 15.59

Still-births 14 Rate per 1,000 total births 16.11

Deaths 559 Death-rate (Crude) ... 10.29

Area Comparability-Factor (Deaths) 1.36 Standardised Death-rate ... 14.00

Number of women dying in, or in consequence of, childbirth was Nil Rate per 1,000 Births (Live and Still) —

Death-rates of Infants under one year:—

All Infants per 1,000 live births ... (14) 16.37

Legitimate Infants per 1,000 Legitimate live births ... (14) 17.41

Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 Illegitimate live births ... (—) —

Deaths from Cancer (all ages) ... 106

Deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis (all ages) 5

Deaths from Measles (all ages) ... Nil

Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages) ... Nil

3.—BIRTH AND DEATH RATES PER 1,000 TOTAL POPULATION.

					Live Birth Rate	Death Rate
England and Wales	...	...	...	...	18.2	12.2
OLDBURY	...	...	...	...	15.59	14.00

POPULATION.

The Registrar-General estimates that 54,280 persons were resident in the Oldbury area at Mid-1963. The "natural increase of population," that is, excess of births over deaths, during the year was 296.

DEATHS.

In 1963, 305 deaths were registered in the Oldbury area. 4 of these deaths were persons not normally resident in the district, and 258 Oldbury residents died outside the district. The aggregate number of deaths for the year was 559, representing a crude death rate of 10.29 per thousand of the estimated population and a standardised death rate of 14.00 per thousand of the population. The corresponding figures for 1962 were 523 total deaths, a crude death rate of 9.61 and a standardised death rate of 13.64.

Of the 559 deaths, 14 were of infants under one year of age, representing an infantile mortality rate of 16.37 per thousand live births. In 1962 there were 18 deaths under one year of age and an infantile mortality rate of 21.87 per thousand live births.

The most frequent causes of deaths, the number of deaths so registered, and the corresponding death rates per thousand of the population were:—

Heart Disease	...	175	deaths equivalent to a death rate of 3.224
Cancer	...	106	„ „ „ „ 1.952
Vascular Lesions	75	„	„ „ „ 1.381
Bronchitis	...	48	„ „ „ „ 0.884
Pneumonia	...	46	„ „ „ „ 0.847
Tuberculosis (all forms)	...	5	„ „ „ „ 0.092

Heart Disease occupies first place as primary cause of death.

HEART DISEASE.

Of the 175 deaths recorded as due to heart disease, 109 relate to persons over the age of 65 and 6 were in respect of persons under 45 years of age.

CANCER.

For the purposes of comparison the following table gives a summary of deaths from Cancer, and the age distribution of those deaths during the past twenty years.

Year	ESTIMATED POPULATION	NUMBER OF DEATHS			Rate per 1000 Pop.	AGE DISTRIBUTION				
		Males	Fe- males	Total		0-15 Years	15-25 Years	25-45 Years	45-65 Years	65 years & over
1944	50,220	32	33	65	1.29	1	1	7	23	33
1945	50,040	42	27	69	1.37	..	..	6	29	33
1946	51,890	47	38	85	1.63	..	1	2	32	50
1947	52,510	62	40	102	1.94	..	..	10	34	58
1948	53,350	42	41	83	1.55	..	..	11	36	36
1949	53,380	45	48	93	1.74	..	..	5	43	45
1950	53,820	49	36	85	1.57	1	..	7	33	45
1951	53,740	39	36	75	1.39	1	..	5	36	33
1952	53,790	46	36	82	1.52	1	1	5	33	42
1953	53,820	36	29	65	1.20	..	..	6	29	30
1954	54,030	53	37	90	1.66	..	1	8	32	49
1955	54,550	41	47	88	1.61	1	1	12	32	42
1956	54,840	54	43	97	1.76	..	..	8	48	41
1957	54,770	51	41	92	1.67	..	..	12	41	39
1958	55,100	41	47	88	1.59	..	..	3	43	42
1959	55,310	60	47	107	1.93	1	1	4	44	57
1960	55,440	63	44	107	1.93	1	..	8	54	44
1961	54,220	58	35	93	1.71	2	..	4	45	42
1962	54,420	51	38	89	1.63	..	..	2	38	49
1963	54,280	55	51	106	1.95	..	1	9	47	49

An analysis of the deaths from malignant disease shows that the site of the cancer causing death was as follows:—

		No.	MALE		Average Age	No.	FEMALE		Average Age
			Age Range	Age			Age Range	Age	
Respiratory Tract:									
(a) Naso-pharynx	...	2	65-73	69	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Bronchus	...	19	41-77	60	2	41-56	48	48	48
(c) Lungs	...	7	38-71	58	2	58-60	59	59	59
Intestinal Tract:									
(a) Oesophagus	...	1	86	86	1	83	83	83	83
(b) Stomach	...	6	32-86	65	10	51-89	69	69	69
(c) Colon	...	3	70-81	76	3	57-89	74	74	74
(d) Rectum	...	2	48-64	56	1	78	78	78	78
(e) Liver	...	—	—	—	1	66	66	66	66

		MALE			FEMALE		
		No.	Age Range	Average Age	No.	Age Range	Average Age
Genito-urinary Organs:							
(a) Ovary	...	—	—	—	1	66	66
(b) Uterus	...	—	—	—	3	50-75	62
(c) Cervix	...	—	—	—	3	41-61	52
(d) Vulva	...	—	—	—	1	75	75
(e) Testis	...	1	34	34	—	—	—
(f) Bladder	...	2	74-81	77	2	53-73	63
Glands:							
(a) Prostate	...	4	58-81	72	—	—	—
(b) Breast	...	—	—	—	10	44-87	62
(c) Pancreas	...	1	71	71	5	50-80	65
(d) Adrenal	...	—	—	—	1	38	38
Brain	...	3	42-55	50	—	—	—
Bone	...	3	57-72	66	—	—	—
Hodgkins Disease	...	1	61	61	1	19	19
Miscellaneous	...	—	—	—	4	63-79	70
Totals	...	55	32-86	63	51	19-89	64

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Diphtheria.

Tables IVa and IVb summarising the work of Immunisation will be found at the end of the Report.

There were no cases of Diphtheria notified during the year.

Poliomyelitis Vaccination.

The following table summarises the doses administered during the year:—

Primary Immunisation during 1963

AGE GROUP	Number of persons who had received:		TOTAL
	SALK	ORAL	
	Second Injection	Three doses	
(a) Children born in 1963	1	52	53
(b) Children born in 1962	3	365	368
(c) Children born in 1961	—	82	82
(d) Children and young persons born in years 1943-1960	—	57	57
(e) Young persons born in years 1933-1942	2	17	19
(f) Others	4	46	50
(g) Total	10	619	629

Reinforcing Doses

SALK INJECTIONS		ORAL DOSES AFTER	
Third or 4th Quadruple	Fourth or 5th Quadruple	2 Salk Injections	3 Salk Injections, or 3 Oral, or 2 Salk plus 2 Oral
25	11	514	354

Scarlet Fever.

56 cases were notified compared with 21 in 1962. The disease in the main was mild in character and of relatively little significance.

Pneumonia.

39 cases were notified and 46 deaths reported during the year.

Influenza.

There was 1 death in 1963 compared with 3 in 1962.

Erysipelas.

No cases were notified during the year as compared with 2 during 1962.

Measles and Whooping Cough.

There were 746 cases of Measles and 68 cases of Whooping Cough notified during the year. No deaths were attributed to these diseases.

Whooping Cough Immunisation at 31st December, 1963

Year of Birth	Year of Immunisation															Totals
	1963	1962	1961	1960	1959	1958	1957	1956	1955	1954	1953	1952	1951	1950	1949	
1963	191															191
1962	304	204														508
1961	22	331	266													619
1960	4	22	389	206												621
1959	2	6	25	351	160											544
1958	14	1	19	41	328	148										551
1957	2	17	14	6	21	317	123									500
1956	—	4	29	16	15	29	322	70								485
1955	2	2	6	28	11	21	35	265	36							406
1954	2	—	6	5	24	25	18	19	191	27						317
1953	—	1	3	1	3	32	20	8	18	133	8					227
1952	1	3	2	2	3	11	29	10	12	14	69					156
1951	1	2	3	5	5	4	9	21	11	2	5	37				105
1950	—	—	—	6	3	6	6	2	17	4	—	6	20			70
1949	—	—	2	2	—	2	—	1	7	3	1	1	6	10	4	39
Totals	545	593	764	669	573	595	562	396	292	183	83	44	26	10	4	5339

Meningococcal Infection.

One case was notified and there were no deaths.

Tuberculosis.

The following tables have been supplied by the Chest Physician, Dr. R. B. Mayfield, who comments:—

LANGLEY CHEST CLINIC, 1963.

Clinic Attendances.

Year	New cases other than Contacts	New Contacts	Total New and Old	Notifications of T.B.
Average 1953—57	311	109	2814	54
Average 1958—62	340	83	2787	32
1963	301	79	2474	24

PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS IN OLDBURY.

As will be seen in the table, the total of clinic attendances continues to fall as tuberculosis becomes less prevalent. On the other hand the numbers of new cases referred for opinion have not diminished greatly during the past ten years, and this is surprising in view of the continued absence of X-ray facilities on the premises.

The table also shows the decline in the numbers of newly notified cases of tuberculosis during the past ten years. For some years now tuberculosis has been rightly described as a dying disease, but the process is slow and it seems appropriate to mention certain factors that help to keep it alive.

First, there is the persistent reservoir of unknown infectious cases, mostly composed of elderly men. This problem may solve itself slowly as the years go by, but it could be solved quickly and surely if some means could be found of persuading all men over 45 years of age to have at least one chest x-ray examination.

Secondly, there is the problem of drug-resistant tubercle bacilli. There is no doubt that the accelerated decline of tuberculosis owes much to the discovery of effective drug treatment, but

there are a few patients who harbour tubercle bacilli which are immune to one or more of the three best drugs, and in such instances effective treatment is difficult and may be impossible. Moreover, any healthy person infected from such a patient is in the same unhappy position. Fortunately, drug-resistant bacilli, so far, are comparatively uncommon, but their increase would be serious indeed. Meticulous care in taking the drugs regularly and in correct dosage is essential if treatment is to be successful and the bacilli are not to become immune to the drugs. This is not easy over a long period, and requires a really sustained effort on the part of the patient.

Thirdly, there is the matter of tuberculosis amongst immigrants. Certain Asiatics seem to be especially prone to tuberculosis, and many come to this country already diseased. Generally, they accept treatment readily, but others may be infected before the disease is discovered and contact control is hampered by the language difficulty. The remedy here would be routine chest radiography of all immigrants on arrival in this country, so that treatment could be started without delay. Emigrants from the United Kingdom must produce clear chest x-rays before they can be accepted by the United States and the Dominions. It seems reasonable to adopt similar precautions to protect our own population.

Enough has been said to indicate that there are still obstacles to be overcome before tuberculosis is eradicated, though none of them is insuperable. It is likely that this disease could be virtually abolished within three or four years if the people of this country were determined that it should be.

The table below shows the number of notifications of Pulmonary Tuberculosis during the years 1947 to 1963.

Notification of Pulmonary Tuberculosis — New Cases.

Year	Total	Sex		0-15 Years	15-25 Years	25-35 Years	35-45 Years	45-55 Years	55 Years & over
1947	55	Male	32	5	7	3	9	3	5
		Female	23	4	10	2	5	..	2
1948	59	Male	35	4	15	4	6	2	4
		Female	24	6	7	3	3	2	3
1949	65	Male	44	6	7	5	8	7	11
		Female	21	1	6	6	7	1	..
1950	56	Male	38	1	9	11	6	7	4
		Female	18	4	4	6	4	..	..
1951	70	Male	4	5	8	10	3	12	6
		Female	46	6	11	2	2	2	3
1952	54	Male	28	3	3	5	6	9	2
		Female	26	2	6	6	6	3	3
1953	56	Male	30	4	3	5	4	11	3
		Female	26	4	11	4	6	1	..
1954	61	Male	37	3	12	9	4	3	6
		Female	24	4	12	6	..	2	..
1955	50	Male	31	3	4	6	5	3	10
		Female	19	5	6	6	..	..	2
1956	38	Male	22	1	5	6	6	2	2
		Female	16	3	5	2	4	1	1
1957	35	Male	23	3	6	3	2	2	7
		Female	12	2	6	4	..	..	..
1958	44	Male	28	1	5	3	2	5	12
		Female	16	7	2	4	2	1	..
1959	27	Male	16	1	2	1	1	2	9
		Female	11	..	1	4	3	2	1
1960	18	Male	12	1	2	..	3	..	6
		Female	6	..	2	1	..	..	3
1961	31	Male	13	2	3	1	2	1	4
		Female	18	4	2	1	6	2	3
1962	24	Male	14	1	1	4	3	2	3
		Female	10	2	2	1	1	3	7
1963	21	Male	12	1	..	..	2	2	7
		Female	9	1	2	2	1	1	2

Three cases of Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis were notified in 1963.

Cases on the register at the end of the year were as follows:—

			Male	Female
Pulmonary	...	...	277 (279)	200 (198)
Non-Pulmonary	...	...	23 (24)	16 (17)

Figures for 1962 in brackets.

The following table shows the sex and age groups of the deaths from respiratory tuberculosis since 1945:—

Year	Total	Death Rate	SEX	0-15 Years	15-25 Years	25-35 Years	35-45 Years	45-55 Years	55 years & over
1945	26	·52	Male 16 Female 10	.. ..	.. 3	4 3	2 2	3 2	7 ..
1946	38	·73	Male 23 Female 15	1 2	2 2	7 5	4 1	2 2	7 3
1947	27	·51	Male 20 Female 7	.. ..	4 1	4 3	5 3	2 ..	5 ..
1948	15	·28	Male 8 Female 7	.. ..	3 2	.. 2	1 3	4..	....
1949	28	·52	Male 16 Female 12	1 ..	2 5	1 1	6 2	3 1	3 3
1950	13	·24	Male 8 Female 5	1 ..	.. ..	.. 3	2 1	1 1	4 ..
1951	15	·27	Male 12 Female 3	.. ..	.. ..	3 2	.. ..	3 ..	6 1
1952	13	·24	Male 8 Female 5	.. ..	.. ..	1 ..	3 2	2 ..	2 3
1953	11	·20	Male 6 Female 5	.. ..	.. 2	2 ..	.. 1	2 1	2 1
1954	12	·22	Male 10 Female 2	.. ..	.. ..	1 ..	1 2	.. ..	8 ..
1955	6	·11	Male 5 Female 1	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	1 ..	2 1	2 ..
1956	3	·05	Male 3 Female —	.. ..	.. ..	1 ..	1 ..	.. ..	1 ..
1957	7	·12	Male 7 Female —	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	4 ..	3 ..
1958	4	·07	Male 2 Female 2	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	1 ..	.. 1	1 1
1959	Nil	Nil	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1960	2	·036	Male 1 Female 1	.. ..	.. ..	.. 1	.. ..	.. ..	1 ..
1961	2	·036	Male 2 Female —	1 ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	1 ..
1962	Nil	Nil	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1963	5	·092	Male 5 Female —	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	5 ..

TUBERCULOSIS CASES, 1963

Analysis of Additions and Deletions					TOTALS
R E S P I R A T O R Y	M A L E	No. on Register at 1-1-63 ...			279
		Additions	Primary Notifications ...	12	
			Heard of otherwise (Death Returns)	—	
			Restored to Register...	1	
			Inward Transfers ...	10	
		Deletions	Died ...	12	
			Recovered ...	3	
			Diagnosis not confirmed ...	—	
	Outward Transfers ...		10		
	No. on Register at 31-12-63 ...			277	
	F E M A L E	No. on Register at 1-1-63 ...			198
		Additions	Primary Notifications ...	9	
			Heard of otherwise (Death Returns)	—	
Restored to Register...			—		
Inward Transfers ...			9		
Deletions		Died ...	3		
		Recovered ...	7		
		Diagnosis not confirmed ...	—		
	Outward Transfers ...	6			
No. on Register at 31-12-63 ...			200		
N O N R E S P I R A T O R Y	M A L E	No. on Register at 1-1-63 ...			24
		Additions	Primary Notifications ...	1	
			Heard of otherwise (Death Returns)	—	
			Restored to Register...	—	
			Inward Transfers ...	1	
		Deletions	Died ...	—	
			Recovered ...	1	
			Diagnosis not confirmed ...	—	
	Outward Transfers ...		2		
	No. on Register at 31-12-63 ...			23	
	F E M A L E	No. on Register at 1-1-63 ...			17
		Additions	Primary Notifications ...	2	
			Heard of otherwise (Death Returns)	—	
Restored to Register...			—		
Inward Transfers ...			—		
Deletions		Died ...	—		
		Recovered ...	—		
		Diagnosis not confirmed ...	1		
	Outward Transfers ...	2			
No. on Register at 31-12-63 ...			16		

DEATHS—All the Deaths removed from Register may not have actually occurred during 1963

National Assistance Act, 1948—Section 50.

On one occasion the Council had to bear the cost of burial during the year.

National Assistance Act, 1948, and National Assistance (Amendment) Act, 1951.

It was not necessary during the year to resort to Section 47 in order to remove, to suitable premises, a person in need of care and attention.

Mortuary.

During the year 49 bodies were removed to the Mortuary and in each instance a post-mortem was conducted.

Medical Examinations.

The staff of the department carried out 105 medical examinations for superannuation and employment purposes.

SANITARY CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.**Housing.**

Increased housing accommodation is still an urgent necessity in the Borough. Re-housing of tuberculous cases continues to merit top priority, but families living in overcrowded or insanitary accommodation are also given due consideration.

The Housing Manager informs me that he received 416 (241 sub-tenants, 175 tenants) new applications during the year, divisible into the following groups:—

- 294 with no children.
- 71 with one child.
- 38 with 2 children.
- 11 with 3 children.
- 1 with 4 children.
- 1 with 5 children.

Total applications on Housing Register at 31.12.63:—

Sub-Tenants	...	...	...	...	1,307
Tenants	...	...	...	...	1,375

The Borough Surveyor has supplied the following figures:—

Number of dwellings completed by the Corporation	182
Number of dwellings completed by Smethwick Corporation	131
Number of dwellings completed by private contractors	73
Number of dwellings in course of erection at 31.12.63	684
Number of permanent dwellings erected since 8.5.1945	3,876

Water Supply.

273 houses in the area are supplied with water from mains by means of standpipes. The approximate population so served is 873. The remaining houses and population in the area receive water from mains direct to individual houses.

Specimen results from analysis by the County Analyst are as follows:—

	Zone 1	Zone 2	Zone 3
Physical Characters			
Colour	Colourless	Colourless	Colourless
Odour	None	None	None
Deposit	None	None	None
pH.	7.7	7.5	7.3

Chemical Examination.

Solids in solution (Dried at 180°C.)	350	455	460
Solids in solution (After ignition)	260	305	325
Chlorine present as chloride	33	43	34
Hardness—non-carbonate	142	136	152
Hardness—carbonate ...	100	144	144
Hardness, total ...	242	280	296
Ammoniacal Nitrogen	0.02	0.04	0.02
Albuminoid Nitrogen...	0.09	0.05	0.06
Nitrate Nitrogen ...	5.7	5.8	7.2
Nitrite Nitrogen ...	Nil	Nil	Nil
Permanganate Value ...	1.20	1.05	0.9
Toxic Metals	Nil	Nil	None detected
Total Residual Chlorine	0.01	Trace	Nil
Fluorine	—	—	—

Note—To convert the above parts per million to grains per gallon, multiply by 0.07.

Bacteriological Examination.

Probable number of coliform bacilli:—

In two days at 37°C.	Nil per 100 m.l.	Nil per 100 m.l.	Nil per 100 m.l.
Bact. Coli Type 1 ...	Nil per 100 m.l.	Nil per 100 m.l.	Nil per 100 m.l.

SERVICES DELEGATED BY THE WORCESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE

Chief Statistics, 1963. Registrar-General's Figures.

Live Births	855
Live birth rate per 1,000 population	15.59
Illegitimate live births per cent. of total live births ...	5.86
Still-births	14
Still-births rate per 1,000 live and still-births	16.11
Total live and still-births	869
Infant deaths	14
Infant Mortality Rates—	
Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births ...	16.37
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births	17.41
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births	Nil
Neo-natal (under 4 weeks) mortality rate per 1,000 total live births	12.65
Early neo-natal (under 1 week) mortality rate per 1,000 total live births	8.05
Perinatal mortality rate (still-births and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and still-births)	24.16
Maternal deaths (including abortion)	Nil
Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 live and still-births ...	—

Births.

The total of 855 live births is divisible into 435 boys and 420 girls, giving a standardised live birth-rate of 15.59 per thousand estimated population.

Of the 855 live births, 51 were illegitimate (30 boys and 21 girls). One illegitimate still-birth was notified.

Still-births.

There were 14 still-births registered during 1963, giving a still-birth-rate of 16.11 per thousand live and still-births, or 0.25 still-births per thousand of the population, as compared with 1962, when the number of still-births was 24; the still-birth rate 28.33 per thousand live and still-births, or 0.44 still-births per thousand population.

Premature Births — 1963

WEIGHT AT BIRTH	PREMATURE LIVE BIRTHS											
	Born in Hospital						Born at home or in a nursing home					
	DIED			DIED			DIED			DIED		
	Total births	Within 24 hours of birth	In 1 and under 7 days	In 7 and under 28 days	Total births	Within 24 hours of birth	In 1 and under 7 days	In 7 and under 28 days	Total births	Within 24 hours of birth	In 1 and under 7 days	In 7 and under 28 days
2 lb. 3 oz. or less	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Over 2 lb. 3 oz. up to and including 3 lb. 4 oz.	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Over 3 lb. 4 oz. up to and including 4 lb. 6 oz.	3	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Over 4 lbs. 6 oz. up to and including 4 lb. 15 oz.	12	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
Over 4 lb. 15 oz. up to and including 5 lb. 8 oz.	27	1	1	1	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	48	1	1	2	12	—	—	—	3	—	—	—

Infant Mortality.

There were 14 deaths of infants under one year of age and 11 of these deaths occurred within the first four weeks of life. This is equivalent to an Infant mortality rate of 16.37 per thousand live births.

The corresponding figures for the previous ten years are:—

1953	...	25	deaths	or	31.05	per	1,000	live	births
1954	...	22	„	or	29.53	„	„	„	„
1955	...	16	„	or	21.88	„	„	„	„
1956	...	15	„	or	18.67	„	„	„	„
1957	...	19	„	or	24.35	„	„	„	„
1958	...	22	„	or	29.37	„	„	„	„
1959	...	17	„	or	21.76	„	„	„	„
1960	...	18	„	or	21.92	„	„	„	„
1961	...	30	„	or	23.09	„	„	„	„
1962	...	18	„	or	21.87	„	„	„	„

An analysis of the causes of death of infants will be found in the following table:—

Infant Mortality during the Year 1963
Nett Deaths from stated Causes at various Ages under
One Year of Age

CAUSE OF DEATH	DAYS				Total under 1 Week	WEEKS		Total under 4 weeks	MONTHS		Total under 1 Year
	0-1	1-2	5-6	6-7		2-3	3-4		3-6	9-12	
Pneumonia					—	1	1	2		1	3
Cong. Abnormality	1				1			1	1		2
Spina Bifida		1	1		2			2			2
Imperforate Anus				1	1			1			1
Enteritis					—			—	1		1
Toxaemia of Pregnancy	1				1			1			1
Cerebral Anoxia		1			1			1			1
Septicaemia					—	1		1			1
Birth Injury		1			1			1			1
Prematurity					—	1		1			1
TOTALS	2	3	1	1	7	3	1	11	2	1	14

Perinatal Mortality Rate.

The following table gives the Oldbury and the England and Wales Rates for the past ten years:—

Year	Stillbirth Rate (Per 1,000 Total Births)		Neonatal Mortality Rate (Per 1,000 Live Births)		Perinatal Mortality Rate (Per 1,000 Total Births)	
	Oldbury	England and Wales	Oldbury	England and Wales	Oldbury	England and Wales
1963	16.11	17.3	12.65	14.2	24.16	29.3
1962	28.33	18.1	19.44	15.1	44.86	30.8
1961	11.41	19.1	19.63	15.5	26.25	32.2
1960	24.94	19.8	18.27	15.6	40.38	32.9
1959	29.81	21.0	12.80	15.8	42.23	34.2
1958	17.06	21.6	18.69	16.2	32.80	35.1
1957	28.64	22.5	16.66	16.5	43.58	36.2
1956	21.92	22.9	13.69	16.8	34.10	36.8
1955	22.72	23.2	16.41	17.3	36.09	37.6
1954	15.85	23.5	24.16	17.7	35.66	38.1

Illegitimate Live Births.

The Illegitimate Live Birth Rate shows an increase on the figure for the previous year.

Year	Number	Rate per 1,000 Population	% of Total Live Births
1963	51	.93	5.86
1962	48	.88	5.83
1961	43	.79	4.96
1960	36	.64	4.38
1959	24	.43	3.07
1958	32	.58	4.27
1957	28	.51	3.58
1956	16	.29	1.99
1955	23	.42	3.14
1954	25	.46	3.35
1953	32	.59	3.97
1952	27	.50	3.61
1951	28	.52	3.54
1950	38	.70	4.51
1949	44	.824	5.26
1948	30	.562	3.26
1947	36	.685	3.43
1946	53	1.023	5.14
1945	54	1.079	5.21
1944	28	.557	2.52
1943	31	.618	2.73
1942	23	.469	2.24
1941	18	.364	2.08

Maternal Mortality.

There were no deaths during 1963.

Midwives Act, 1936.

An indication of the work undertaken by the Domiciliary Midwives during the year can be obtained from the following table:—

YEAR	CONFINEMENTS					Hospital Discharges before 14th day (1952-60) before 10th day 1961	Domiciliary cases wholly Breast Fed at 14th day (1961 - 10th day)	NATAL VISITS		
	DOCTOR BOOKED				Total					
	No		Yes							
	Present at Delivery		Present at Delivery							
	Yes	No	Yes	No						Cases	Visits	Ante	Post
1954	—	17	40	218	275	338	926	218	2124	26
1955	—	16	21	261	298	314	989	218	1482	2
1956	—	7	20	259	286	459	1313	212	1622	—
1957	1	6	20	249	273	552	1625	207	1990	—
1958	—	3	25	221	249	417	1955	177	1971	—
1959	—	2	21	220	243	419	2167	157	2045	—
1960	—	10	27	277	314	426	2263	214	2274	—
1961	1	5	27	251	284	380	1674	181	1745	1
1962	1	6	23	259	289	393	1320	183	2309	1
1963	—	—	33	287	320	412	1465	184	2049	—

Gas and Air Analgesia.

This service was made available to all expectant mothers from May 1948. Out of 320 domiciliary cases, 235 or 73.4 per cent. availed themselves of the opportunity during the year, as compared with 79.5 per cent. in 1962.

Notifications received from Midwives.

The following notifications were received from midwives practising in the Borough:—

Sending for medical aid ...	...	...	105
Liability to be a source of infection ...	...	...	1
Death of mother and/or child ...	...	...	—
Laying out of dead ...	...	...	—
Abortions and still-births ...	...	...	2

Puerperal Pyrexia.

One case of Puerperal Pyrexia was notified.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

There was one case during the year.

MEDICAL AID.

Medical aid was summoned by Midwives on 105 occasions up to the end of the year and a summary of the requests received is set out in the next page. In all instances a Medical Practitioner

had arranged to provide the patient with maternity medical services under the National Health Service.

Mother —

Ruptured perineum	...	...	...	...	34
Episiotomy	...	...	...	...	2
Raised blood pressure	...	...	...	...	1
Phlebitis	...	...	...	...	1
Ante-partum haemorrhage	...	...	...	...	4
Post-partum haemorrhage	...	...	...	...	3
Primipara aged 15 years unprepared	...	...	...	...	1
Pyrexia	...	...	...	...	4
Breast abscess	...	...	...	...	2
Retained placenta	...	...	...	...	4
Prolonged stage	...	...	...	...	1
Delayed first stage	...	...	...	...	2
Delayed third stage	...	...	...	...	1
Foetal distress	...	...	...	...	5
Premature labour	...	...	...	...	2
Ruptured membranes	...	...	...	...	4
Patient felt ill	...	...	...	...	1
					<hr/> 72 <hr/>

Baby —

Discharging eye	...	...	...	...	21
Spina bifida	...	...	...	...	1
Meconium Stained Liquor	...	...	...	...	1
Asphyxia	...	...	...	...	4
Prematurity	...	...	...	...	1
Cyanosis	...	...	...	...	2
Vomiting and Diarrhoea	...	...	...	...	1
Rash	...	...	...	...	1
Cerebral irritation	...	...	...	...	1
					<hr/> 33 <hr/>

Accommodation for Maternity Cases.

The total number of births notified as having occurred in Hospitals, etc., outside the Borough was 564.

	Living	Still-born
Hallam Hospital, West Bromwich	321	10
Birmingham Maternity Hospital	18	—
Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Selly Oak	20	—
Marston Green Maternity Hospital	1	—
St. Chad's Hospital	142	2
Sorrento Maternity Hospital	1	—
Selly Oak Hospital	6	—
Dudley Road Hospital	21	—
Ronkswood Hospital	1	—
Walton Hospital, Liverpool	1	—
Bromsgrove Hospital	3	—
Lyncroft House Maternity Home	1	—
Mary Stevens' Maternity Home	6	—
Lordswood Maternity Home	4	—
Rosemary Ednam Maternity Home	6	—
Totals	<hr/> 552 <hr/>	<hr/> 12 <hr/>

Ante-Natal Clinics.

The attendances at the respective clinics were as follows:—

	OLDBURY		LANGLEY		TOTALS	
	1962	1963	1962	1963	1962	1963
Number of Sessions	25	22	25	25	52	47
New Ante-Natal Cases	26	8	26	17	52	25
Total attendances	132	58	136	91	268	149
Average per Session	5.2	2.6	5.4	3.4	5.3	3.1
Blood Test only ..	68	57	154	184	230	241
Hospital booking only	129	86	142	118	271	204

The number of 25 new cases is 2.9 per cent. of the total registered births for the district.

Routine blood samples for the investigation of the Rhesus Factor, Wasserman Reaction and Haemoglobin estimation are now taken at the Ante-Natal Clinics, and the results so far obtained undoubtedly justify the continuance of this procedure. This service is available to the patients of General Practitioners on request.

Infant Welfare Clinics.

The three clinics at Langley, Oldbury and Warley continued to serve the Borough throughout the year. Two sessions per week were held at Langley and Warley, and one session per week at Oldbury.

674 babies under the age of 1 year attended the Clinics for the first time. This represented 78.8 per cent. of the registered live births. 49 children between 1 and 2 years and 74 children between the age of 2 and 5 years attended the Clinics for the first time during the year.

The following table gives particulars of attendances at the three Infant Welfare Clinics.

	OLDBURY		LANGLEY		WARLEY		TOTALS	
	1962	1963	1962	1963	1962	1963	1962	1963
New Cases:—								
0-1 year	145	146	268	295	189	233	602	674
1-2 years	13	6	6	8	19	35	38	49
2-5 years	9	3	6	8	26	63	41	74
Total ..	167	155	280	311	234	331	681	797
Seen by Doctor:—								
0-1 year	674	715	1,425	1,423	1,025	1,019	3,124	3,157
1-2 years	86	75	118	161	116	156	320	392
2-5 years	62	45	115	92	111	132	288	269
Total ..	822	835	1,758	1,676	1,252	1,307	3,732	3,818
Attendances:—								
0-1 year	1,973	2,138	4,852	4,662	2,865	3,464	9,690	10,264
1-2 years	582	623	1,057	1,138	722	891	2,361	2,652
2-5 years	319	460	618	614	791	945	1,728	2,019
Total ..	2,874	3,221	6,527	6,414	4,378	5,300	13,779	14,935
Number of Sessions ..	50	49	103	102	100	100	253	251
Average Attendance ..	57	65	63	63	43	53	54	59
Children attending in 1963 (1962)								
Who were born in:—1963 (1962)	(123)	136	(215)	266	(157)	208	(495)	610
Who were born in:—1962 (1961)	(103)	104	(271)	222	(169)	167	(543)	493
Who were born in:—1961 (1960)	(98)	94	(223)	231	(194)	229	(525)	554
Total Children attending in 1963 (1962)	(324)	334	(719)	719	(520)	604	(1,563)	1,657

Mothercraft Classes.

A Mothercraft Class is held every fortnight at the Welfare Centre, Bleakhouse Road, Warley.

Relaxation Class.

A Relaxation Class for expectant mothers is held on alternate Wednesdays at the Welfare Centre, Bleakhouse Road, Warley. 261 attendances were made at 23 sessions.

Post-Natal Clinics

Attendances are, on the whole, disappointing, but this is now largely due to the obligation of Doctors under the National Health Service Act, 1946, to carry out routine post-natal examinations on their Maternity cases.

Work of the Health Visitors.

During the year 10,785 effective visits were made to homes in the district and 768 sessions were taken up by attendance at Ante-Natal and Infant Welfare Centres. Futile visits amounted to 1,049.

The work undertaken by the Health Visitors can be summarised as follows:—

				No. of Cases Visited	
				At the request of a	Total
				G.P. or Hospital	
Children born in 1963	...	...	...	—	810
Children born in 1962	...	...	...	—	857
Children born in 1958-61	...	...	...	—	2,036
Total				—	3,703
Persons aged 65 and over	...	...	...	1	61
Persons mentally disordered	...	...	...	—	93
Persons discharged from hospital (Excluding maternity cases)	...	...	...	—	—
Households—Tuberculosis	...	...	...	—	10
Households—Other Infectious Disease	...	...	...	—	58

280 households were visited by the Tuberculosis Health Visitor.

Voluntary Committees.

A Voluntary Committee operates at each Infant Welfare Clinic and their efforts in maintaining the happy relationship at our clinics and successfully arranging social functions in the form of outings, sales of work and competitions are very much appreciated.

Sale of Dried Milk and Other Foods.

During the year dried milk and other foods to the value of £2,821 12s. 8d. were sold at the Welfare Clinics.

Distribution of Welfare Foods.

The distribution of welfare foods continued during the year from the Infant Welfare Clinics and also from the Central Depot established at the Offices, Greenwood Avenue, Langley, Oldbury.

During the year the following items were distributed:—

National Dried Milk—Full Cream	...	5,946 tins.
Half Cream	...	131 tins.
Cod Liver Oil	...	844 bottles.
Vitamin A and D Tablets	...	546 packets.
Orange Juice	...	8,589 bottles.

Ophthalmic Treatment.

Those children attending the Welfare Clinics noted to be suffering from defective vision or other eye conditions are sent to Mr. Guy F. G. Siggins, the Ophthalmic Specialist, at the School Clinic.

During 1963 44 new cases attended and the following conditions were found to have been present:—

Strabismus	...	34
Coloboma	...	1
No defect found	...	9

Medical Inspection of Pre-School Children between 3 and 5 years of age.

The following is a summary of the finding of medical inspections during 1963:—

Physical condition—Satisfactory	...	253 (100.0%)
Unsatisfactory	...	— (—)
Total	...	253

Defects found and referred for treatment:—

Skin	...	8	Lung defect	...	1
Eye defects	...	7	Developmental	...	3
Ear defects	...	4	Orthopaedic	...	7
Nose and Throat	...	4	Nervous system	...	1
Defective speech	...	—	Psychological	...	—
Lymphatic glands	...	—	Abdomen	...	—
Heart and Circulation	...	—	Other defects	...	1

Dental Treatment—

Pre-School Children and Expectant and Nursing Mothers.

	Expectant and Nursing Mothers	Children under five years
New Patients: Examined	24	80
Requiring treatment	23	74
Patients Treated: First visits	20	73
Subsequent visits	50	24
Made dentally fit	18	55
Scale and gum treatment	7	—
Fillings	26	55
Silver Nitrate treatment	—	6
Crowns or inlays	—	—
Extractions	65	139
Other operations	2	4
General anaesthetics	—	34
Impression	18	—
Bite	5	—
Try-in	15	—
Denture provided: Full	8	—
Partial	3	—
Radiographs	1	—

Family Planning.

The Oldbury and District Family Planning Association continued their sessions at the Warley Clinic, Bleakhouse Road, Warley, each Wednesday from 6.30—7.30 p.m. There were 995 attendances at 48 sessions.

160 new patients attended during the year, the source of reference is set out in the following table:—

Source				
Health Visitors and Midwives	...	...	...	24
Local Doctors	...	...	...	47
Other Patients already attending	...	...	...	81
Press, Radio, T.V.	...	...	...	2
Transferred from other clinics	...	...	...	13
Telephone Directory	...	...	...	1
F.P.A.	...	...	...	2
Marriage Guidance Council	...	...	...	1
Other sources	...	...	...	2

Home Nursing.

At the end of the year the nursing staff was 7. The following table summarises the work carried out during the year:—

	<i>Cases Attended</i>	<i>Visits Paid</i>
MEDICAL	495	17,676
SURGICAL	93	3,611
INFECTIOUS DISEASE	—	—
TUBERCULOSIS	1	71
MATERNAL COMPLICATIONS ..	4	45
OTHERS	50	396
TOTAL	643	21,799
AGE OF PATIENT AT FIRST VISIT	OVER 65 344	14,930
	UNDER 5 55	294
PATIENTS WHO HAD MORE THAN 24 VISITS IN YEAR	174	18,046

Home Helps.

This service is organised by the local branch of the Women's Voluntary Service and during the year domestic help was provided in 1 tubercular case, 18 maternity cases, 169 cases over 65 years on

first attendance and 5 other cases. There were 27 part-time (equivalent to 14 whole-time) and 1 whole-time Home Helps employed at the end of the year.

Vaccination.

The following table gives details of the number of primary vaccinations carried out during the past ten years:—

Year	Under 1 year	AGE 1-4 years	GROUP 5-14 years	15 years & over	Clinic	General Practitioner	Total
1954	239	12	7	9	115	152	267
1955	217	17	10	6	126	124	250
1956	208	13	1	6	107	121	228
1957	289	25	15	13	128	214	342
1958	318	27	9	14	149	219	368
1959	353	32	12	25	220	202	422
1960	479	46	15	17	302	255	557
1961	462	35	34	9	272	268	540
1962	531	364	1,438	1,932	423	3,842	4,265
1963	310	39	8	24	272	109	381

Diphtheria Immunisation.

In all, 714 children were immunised in 1963, 640 under 5 years of age and 74 between 5 and 15 years of age, and in addition 1,118 reinforcing injections were given, mainly to children aged 5 years.

Details of the state of Immunisation at the 31st December, 1963, are shown in Tables IVa and IVb.

Chiropody Service.

During the year 103 sessions were held in the Clinics at Warley, Langley and Oldbury, at which 186 pensioners made 653 attendances. 110 persons who were in receipt of a supplement to their pension received free treatment on 358 occasions. Arrangements were also made for 71 persons to be treated on 457 occasions at Chiropodist's own surgeries.

Borough Ambulance Service (Not Delegated).

During the year 11,540 ordinary cases, 561 accident cases, 7,894 children to occupational centre, and 307 maternity cases were transported. The total mileage covered was 68,028.

The vehicles include 1 Morris (16 h.p.) Sitting Case Ambulance and 4 Morris (16 h.p.) Ambulances.

The accident cases can be divided into:—

- 283 Road Accidents.
- 95 Works Accidents.
- 153 Home Accidents.
- 30 School Accidents.

Personnel at the Ambulance Station are on duty from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. and on call on rota from 6 p.m. to 8 a.m. The number of cases transported between 8 a.m. and 6 p.m. throughout the year was 19,411 and 891 between 6 p.m. and 8 a.m.

CARE OF THE HANDICAPPED.

The Blind.

The number of blind persons on the register at 31st December, 1963, is shown in the following table:—

		YEARS										Total
		0-10.	11-15.	16-20.	21-39.	40-59.	60-64.	65-69.	70-79.	80-84.	85+	
Male	—	—	3	4	13	2	1	2	—	5		30
Female	—	—	2	2	6	7	4	9	5	4		39

During the year 3 men and 4 women were certified as blind.

Employment.

The workshops for the blind which serve the Borough are situated in Birmingham. At the end of the year the following were in employment:—

Workshop Employment

Male	Female	
—	1	Chair seats.
6	—	Brushmakers.
2	—	Boot and shoe repairers.
1	—	Piano tuner.

Open Industry or Self-Employed

Male	Female	
—	1	Fitter.
1	—	Masseur.
1	—	Clerical worker.
2	—	Machine tool operators.
1	—	Shop manager.
1	—	Labourer.

Home Worker

1	—	Basket-maker.
---	---	---------------

Holidays.

Grants were made to 14 persons from voluntary funds by the Oldbury Branch of the Worcestershire Association for the Blind.

Partially-sighted.

During the year 2 female persons were added to the register and at the 31st December the age distribution was as follows:—

		YEARS						Total
		0-4.	5-15.	16-20.	21-64.	65 and over		
Male	...	—	2	4	2	2		10
Female	...	—	2	—	—	3		5

General Welfare.

Wireless sets from the Wireless for the Blind Fund have been supplied where necessary.

Subscriptions for the National Library for the Blind were paid in respect of seven readers and to the Moon Society for one reader.

18 talking books, tape models, from the Nuffield Library are in the possession of blind persons in the Borough.

PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED PERSONS.

At the 31st December, 1963, the number of persons known to the Department to be physically handicapped was 159 (85 males and 74 females).

The following table indicates the disability, sex and age group:—

	Children under 16 years	Persons aged 16-64 years	Persons aged 65 and over	Total
Deaf with Speech—Male ...	1	7	2	10
Female ...	2	6	1	9
Hard of Hearing—Male ...	2	4	1	7
Female ...	3	5	—	8
General Classes—Male ...	2	38	28	68
Female ...	5	33	19	57
Total ...	15	93	51	159

CARE OF THE AGED.

Residential Accommodation.

Accommodation under Part III of the National Assistance Act is provided by the Worcestershire County Council. During the year the following admissions were made:—

	Male	Female
The Howsells, Malvern Link ...	—	3
Swinford Old Hall, Stourbridge ...	—	1
Laburnum House, Upton-on-Severn ...	1	3
Heathlands, Pershore ...	2	1
Shenstone ...	—	8
Total ...	3	16

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE.

During the year 174 psychiatric cases were referred to the department and 129 of these were admitted to hospital.

Admissions to Hospital.

		Male	Female	Total
Compulsory—Section 29 Mental Health Act	...	6	13	19
Section 25 Mental Health Act	...	2	4	6
Section 26 Mental Health Act	...	1	—	1
Informal	... ..	46	57	103
	Total	55	74	129

Patients under care of L.H.A. at 31st December, 1963.

		Under 16		16 and over		Total
		Male	Female	Male	Female	
(a) Attending day training centre	...	10	13	6	6	35
Awaiting entry thereto	...	3	4	2	—	9
(b) Receiving home training	...	—	—	2	—	2
Awaiting home training	...	—	—	—	—	—
(c) Receiving home visits and not included under (a) and (b)	...	1	1	34	55	91
(d) Number of patients involved at (a) to (c)	... ..	14	18	44	61	137
Patients on waiting list for admission to hospital at 31st Dec., 1963 — not urgent	... ..	—	1	1	—	2
Admission to N.H.S. hospitals for temporary residential care	...	1	1	—	—	2

Number of patients referred to Local Health Authority during 1963

REFERRED BY	MENTALLY ILL				PSYCHOPATH				SUBNORMAL				SEVERELY SUBNORMAL				TOTALS				Grand Total
	Under age 16		16 and over		Under age 16		16 and over		Under age 16		16 and over		Under age 16		16 and over		Under age 16		16 and over		
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)		(21)
(A) General Practitioners			10	26															10	26	36
(B) Hospitals, on discharge from in-patient treatment			41	45															41	45	86
(C) Hospitals, after or during out-patient or day treatment ...			17	20				1											17	21	38
(D) Local education authorities																					—
(E) Police and courts ...			2	1															2	1	3
(F) Other sources ...			9	2															9	2	11
(G) TOTALS			79	94				1											79	95	174

TABLE 1.—*Corrected Notifiable Diseases (excluding Tuberculosis) during 1963*

Notifiable Disease	Cases Notified in Whole District											Total Cases Notified in each Ward										
	At Ages—Years											Central	Broadwell	Brandhall	Rounds Green	Langley	Warley	Bristnall	Total	Total cases removed to Hospital		
	Under 1	1 and under 2	2 and under 3	3 and under 4	4 and under 5	5 and under 10	10 and under 15	15 and under 20	20 and under 25	25 and under 35	35 and under 45										45 and under 65	65 and upwards
Measles ..	32	69	92	86	104	352	10	1	—	—	—	—	—	53	57	241	90	156	94	55	746	1
Whooping Cough ..	11	11	10	10	7	18	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	3	17	9	28	3	5	68	—
Scarlet Fever ..	—	2	3	3	9	33	4	1	—	—	1	—	—	5	7	16	3	8	13	8	56	—
Pneumonia ..	3	2	1	1	1	1	2	—	—	1	4	21	3	7	—	6	8	1	8	2	39	8
Dysentery ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	3	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—
Ophthalmia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Neonatorum ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—
Meningococcal Infection ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
TOTALS ..	47	84	106	100	121	404	18	2	1	2	5	22	3	68	71	281	110	197	118	70	915	9

TABLE II. CAUSES OF DEATH, 1963

Cause of Death	Detailed List No.—	All ages			AGE GROUPS											WARDS						
		TOTAL	M	F	Under 4 weeks	4 weeks and under 1 year	AGE IN YEARS								75 years and over	Central	Broadwell	Brandhall	Rounds Green	Langley	Warley	Bristnall
							1—5 years	5—15 years	15—25 years	25—35 years	35—45 years	45—55 years	55—65 years	65—75 years								
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	001—008	5	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	1	1	...	1	...	2	...	1	1
2. „ other	010—019	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
3. Syphilitic disease	020—029	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
4. Diphtheria	055	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5. Whooping cough	056	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
6. Meningococcal infections	057	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
7. Acute poliomyelitis	080	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
8. Measles	085	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
9. Other infective & parasitic diseases ..	Rest of 001—138	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	151	16	6	10	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	2	4	3	6	2	2	7	3	1	1	...
11. „ „ lung, bronchus	162, 163	30	26	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	4	14	6	2	5	2	6	1	5	5	6
12. „ „ breast	170	10	...	10	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	4	1	2	1	3	2	...	1	1	2
13. „ „ uterus	171—174	6	...	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	2	...	1	1	...	...	...	3	1	1
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	Rest of 140-203, 205	44	23	21	...	...	...	...	1	1	1	4	9	17	11	3	2	17	2	7	5	8
15. Leukæmia, aleukæmia	204	3	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	2	...	...
16. Diabetes	260	3	1	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	...	2	1	...	...	...	...	...
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system ..	330—334	75	26	49	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	4	7	19	41	8	9	12	8	13	10	15
18. Coronary disease, angina	420	106	73	33	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	15	29	33	26	7	10	29	10	19	19	12
19. Hypertension with heart disease ..	440—443	16	6	10	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	6	6	2	1	4	1	4	2	4
20. Other heart disease	Rest of 410—443	53	19	34	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	12	11	27	5	4	14	7	6	10	5
21. „ circulatory disease	444—468	18	10	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	6	...	2	2	5
22. Influenza	480—483	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
23. Pneumonia	490—493	46	22	24	2	1	...	...	1	...	...	1	5	8	28	11	2	11	3	8	4	7
24. Bronchitis	500—502	48	34	14	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	3	15	13	16	4	5	9	6	5	9	10
25. Other diseases of respiratory system ..	470—475, 510—527	7	4	3	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	2	2	2	1	1	1	2	1	...	1
26. Ulcer of stomach & duodenum	540—541	8	7	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	3	1	3	1	1	2	...	1	2	1
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhœa ..	543, 571, 572, 764	4	2	2	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	1	2
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	590—594	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
29. Hyperplasia of Prostate	610	3	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	1	...	...	1	1
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	640—689	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
31. Congenital malformations	750—759	6	3	3	4	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	2	...	1	...	1
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases ..	Rest of 001—795	31	11	20	5	...	1	2	...	...	3	1	2	7	10	3	6	3	2	6	9	2
33. Motor vehicle accidents	E810—835	3	2	1	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	1	...
34. All other accidents	E800—802, E840—963	9	6	3	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	4	3	3	1	1	...	2	2	...
35. Suicide	E963, 970—979	5	4	1	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	1	1	1	...	...	1	...	1	1	2
36. Homicide and operations of war ..	E964, 965, 980—999	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	TOTALS ..	559	297	262	11	3	2	2	6	7	23	43	123	143	196	62	55	131	48	90	87	86

TABLE III.

Birth Rate, Death Rate, and Analysis of Mortality—1963

Area	Live Births	Still Births	Deaths (Ex. Still-births)	Deaths of Infants under One Year	DEATHS FROM							
					Malignant Neoplasm Lung Bronchus	Whooping Cough	Diphtheria	Tuberculosis (All Forms)	Influenza	Acute Poliomyelitis	Pneumonia	Coronary and Arteriosclerotic Heart Disease
ENGLAND AND WALES	18.2	17.2	12.2	21.1	0.52	0.00	0.00	0.06	0.07	0.00	0.78	2.29
OLDBURY	15.59	16.11	14.00	16.37	0.55	—	—	0.092	0.01	—	0.84	1.95

LIVE BIRTH and DEATH RATES per 1,000 population
 STILL BIRTH RATES per 1,000 total (Live and Still) Births
 INFANT MORTALITY RATES per 1,000 related live births

TABLE IVa.
DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION
at 31st DECEMBER, 1963

AGE on 31 - 12 - 63 (Born in year).	Under 1 (1963)	1 - 4 (1962 - 59)	5 - 9 (1958 - 54)	10 - 14 (1953 - 49)	Total under 15 years.
A. No. of children who have completed course (Primary or boosting) in period 1959 - 63	189	2368	2695	1556	6808
B. No. of children who have completed course (Primary or booster) in period 1958 or earlier.	—	—	889	2622	3511
C. Estimated Mid-year child population.	855	3201	7923		11979
Immunity Index:—					
1963	22·10	73·97	53·65		56·83
1962	20·20	74·64	55·99		58·66
1961	20·30	73·58	53·47		56·23
1960	21·52	70·42	57·55		58·28
1959	15·13	65·67	64·33		61·61
1958	8·60	62·50	71·61		65·79
1957	11·22	61·75	73·16		66·80
1956	3·60	62·88	67·27		62·51
1955	5·02	67·60	68·19		64·26
1954	4·03	68·63	59·21		58·34

TABLE IVb—DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION at 31st December, 1963

COLUMN	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	
YEAR OF BIRTH	YEAR OF IMMUNISATION (PRIMARY OR BOOST)															Total Immunised at age in end Col.	Age at Date of Immunisation (Years)	
	1963	1962	1961	1960	1959	1958	1957	1956	1955	1954	1953	1952	1951	1950	1949			
1963	189 276	209 286	289 358	210 306	163 143	40 196	36 188	23 71	18 70	14 77	8 44	16 79	17 60	3 48	14	3,451	0-1	
1962	31 21	43 17	38 16	67 20	28 8	16 7	37 21	19 27	34 15	133 4	8 9	34 2	63 26	24		768	1-2	
1961	5 4	6 4	7 12	— 3	— 10	4 12	11 6	2 4	5 1	— 4	9 9	7 3	8			136	2-3	
1960	2 1	5 4	3 5	1 5	4 8	7 9	9 6	— 4	5 —	2 12	4 28	4				128	3-4	
1959	4 133	19 166	13 18	9 148	11 146	12 81	8 27	2 95	10 106	17 54	16					1,095	4-5	
1958	274 57	308 43	301 63	294 51	279 47	145 19	64 —	104 93	334 124	344						2,944	5-6	
1957	12 6	11 6	3 13	7 5	7 2	10 2	7 15	24 9	11							150	6-7	
1956	4 7	3 5	5 4	3 2	1 1	3 8	7 3	7								63	7-8	
1955	6 7	8 2	5 4	3 13	3 5	5 9	6									76	8-9	
1954	5 15	7 6	1 9	3 10	1 1	54										112	9-10	
1953	277 243	394 194	229 9	10 2	—											1,358	10-11	
1952	9 6	5 2	2 5	5												34	11-12	
1951	— —	1 —	2													3	12-13	
1950	— —	1														1	13-14	
1949	—															—	14-15	
TOTALS	1,594	1,755	1,414	1,177	868	639	451	484	733	661	135	145	174	75	14	10,319		
	6,808					2,968					543							
PRIMARY	714	680	766	753	692	720	749	510	723	817	824	717	706	568*	1,021	Immunisations in the Borough		
BOOSTER	1,118	1,115	791	502	514	829	1,298	1,247	1,225	1,387	1,726	667	555	403*	373			

*Immunisation suspended from July to September.

TABLE V.—VITAL STATISTICS SINCE 1891

YEARS	POPULATION (R. G.'s Mid. Year Est.)	RATES PER 1,000 EST. POPULATION						Infant Mortality Rate (per 1,000 Live Births)		RATES PER 1,000 TOTAL BIRTHS		
		LIVE BIRTH *		DEATH *		PHTHISIS DEATHS				Matern- al Mortal- ity	STILL BIRTH	
		Oldbury	E. & W.	Oldbury	E. & W.	No.	Rate	Oldbury	E. & W.		Old- bury	Old- bury	E. & W.
1891—1895	21,331	40·82	30·5	21·33	18·7	89	·8344	201·8	151			
1896—1900	25,375	37·82	29·3	16·80	17·7	94	·7411	216·5	156			
1901—1905	25,798	36·28	28·2	17·45	16·0	77	·5969	175·0	138			
1906—1910	28,580	35·75	26·3	17·04	14·7	118	·8257	147·1	117			
1911—1915	33,856	30·12	23·6	15·47	14·3	115	·6793	137·6	110			
1916—1920	38,277	23·47	20·1	12·77	14·4	162	·8464	104·1	90			
1921—1925	39,370	23·74	19·9	10·90	12·2	147	·7469	77·2	75	4·49		
6	42,080	20·4	17·8	9·7	11·6	27	·6415	55·8	70	1·16		
7	43,120	19·4	16·7	11·2	12·3	22	·5102	88·4	69	2·38		
8	33,760	21·7	16·7	11·1	11·7	29	·8589	67·8	65	3·64		
9	34,190	21·7	16·3	12·6	13·4	19	·5557	99·7	74	4·04		
1930	35,000	21·5	16·3	10·8	11·4	36	1·0285	43·9	60	7·80		
1	36,370	20·8	15·8	11·1	12·3	21	·5773	68·6	66	3·86		
2	37,660	19·4	15·3	10·1	12·0	21	·5576	91·5	65	7·87		
3	39,560	17·4	14·4	10·5	12·3	23	·5813	89·7	64	2·83		
4	40,720	19·2	14·8	10·4	11·8	29	·7121	64·0	59	2·43		
5	41,900	18·9	14·7	9·7	11·7	31	·7398	65·6	57	2·40		
6	42,990	19·6	14·8	10·28	12·1	35	·8141	55·6	59	—		
7	44,450	18·94	14·9	11·09	12·4	25	·5624	65·32	58	2·24		
8	45,450	19·88	15·1	10·42	11·6	30	·6600	56·41	53	3·19		
9	47,000	18·51	15·0	9·96	12·1	28	·5956	64·59	50	3·31		
1940	48,700	18·74	14·6	11·17	14·3	39	·8008	49·34	55	4·20	38·94	36·1
1	49,390	16·94	14·2	9·98	12·9	30	·6074	70·47	59	1·15	33·48	34·4
2	49,530	19·97	15·8	9·63	11·6	34	·6864	46·51	49	2·92	37·00	33·0
3	50,100	21·89	16·5	9·84	12·1	42	·8382	41·02	49	1·84	35·18	30·2
4	50,220	21·42	17·6	8·86	11·6	26	·5176	37·18	46	2·70	29·75	27·7
5	50,040	20·22	16·1	9·03	11·4	26	·5194	33·59	46	1·93	23·16	27·6
6	51,890	19·32	19·1	9·55	11·5	38	·7322	35·89	43	—	26·21	27·2
7	52,510	19·97	20·5	9·54	12·0	27	·5141	36·22	41	2·78	26·90	24·1
8	53,350	17·22	17·9	8·90	10·8	15	·2811	41·34	34	2·14	13·94	23·2
9	53,380	16·46	16·7	13·12	11·7	28	·5245	34·12	32	2·23	18·97	22·7
1950	53,820	14·86	15·8	12·65	11·6	13	·2415	30·30	29·6	1·18	20·19	22·7
1	53,740	13·84	15·5	12·36	12·5	15	·2791	24·51	29·7	1·26	17·74	23·0
2	53,790	13·32	15·3	11·96	11·3	13	·2416	24·09	27·6	—	19·68	22·7
3	53,820	14·35	15·5	10·45	11·4	11	·2043	31·05	26·8	1·20	27·77	22·5
4	54,030	13·23	15·2	11·75	11·3	12	·2220	29·53	25·4	1·32	15·85	23·5
5	54,550	12·86	15·0	12·43	11·7	6	·1099	21·88	24·9	1·33	22·72	23·2
6	54,840	14·05	15·6	12·53	11·7	3	·0547	18·67	23·7	—	21·92	22·9
7	54,770	13·67	16·1	12·75	11·5	7	·1278	24·35	23·1	1·24	28·64	22·5
8	55,100	13·04	16·4	13·24	11·7	4	·0725	29·37	22·6	—	17·06	21·6
9	55,310	13·55	16·5	13·91	11·6	—	—	21·76	22·2	—	29·81	21·0
1960	55,440	14·22	17·1	13·39	11·5	2	·0360	21·92	21·9	—	24·94	19·8
1	54,220	15·33	17·4	13·54	12·0	2	·0368	23·09	21·6	—	11·41	19·1
2	54,420	14·52	18·0	13·64	11·9	—	—	21·87	21·6	1·18	28·33	18·1
3	54,280	15·59	18·2	14·00	12·2	5	·0921	16·37	20·9	—	16·11	17·3

* These rates are standardised as follows:—

Live Births from 1950
Deaths from 1949

BOROUGH OF OLDBURY

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Chief Public Health Inspector

for the

Year Ended 31st December, 1963.

W. J. MASON, M.A.P.H.I.,

Chief Public Health Inspector

BOROUGH OF OLDBURY

**To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the
Borough of Oldbury.**

Madam Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my Tenth Annual Report of the work carried out by the staff of my Department during the year 1963.

INSPECTIONS.

There was a decrease in the number of inspections during the year as compared with the figure for 1962 mainly due to the reduced incidence of infectious disease. This accounted for no less than 2,000 visits less than those made in the previous year.

Summary of Inspections and Re-visits.

					Inspections	Revisits
Housing Act:						
Housing Survey	...	...	...	...	216	—
Closing and Demolition	...	...	...	...	325	182
Improvement Grants	...	...	...	...	133	379
Overcrowding	...	...	...	...	57	33
Houses in Mutiple Occupation	...	...	...	...	42	9
Public Health Act:						
Repairs	...	...	...	...	363	532
Infectious Diseases and Food Poisoning	...	...	...	...	56	58
Water Closets and Drains	...	...	...	...	687	310
Drainage Tests	...	...	...	...	32	4
Offensive Trades	...	...	...	...	12	4
Water Courses and Canals	...	...	...	...	6	6
Dirty/Verminous Premises	...	...	...	...	52	8
Nuisances	...	...	...	...	79	20
Keeping of Animals/Poultry	...	...	...	...	16	10

						Inspections	Revisits
Food and Drugs Act, etc.:							
Meat and Other Foods Inspection	...	...	...	...	...	194	7
Slaughterhouses (excluding above)	...	...	...	...	...	3	—
Bakeries	...	...	...	...	...	10	—
Food Preparing Premises	...	...	...	...	...	59	—
Ice Cream Premises	...	...	...	...	...	42	1
Retail Food Shops	...	...	...	...	...	134	39
Markets	...	...	...	...	...	19	—
Dairies and Milkshops	...	...	...	...	...	45	—
Food and Drugs Sampling	...	...	...	...	...	173	—
Water Sampling	...	...	...	...	...	26	2
Food Vehicles	...	...	...	...	...	9	—
Food Adulteration	...	...	...	...	...	14	5
Factories Act:							
Factories	...	...	...	...	...	10	—
Outworkers	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
Clean Air Act, etc.:							
Smoke Observations	...	...	...	...	...	96	—
Air Pollution (excluding above)	...	...	...	...	...	214	12
Smoke Control Areas	...	...	...	...	...	250	1,421
Other Acts, Byelaws, etc.:							
Certificates of Disrepair	...	...	...	...	...	5	7
Tents, Vans and Sheds	...	...	...	...	...	5	—
Rats and Mice	...	...	...	...	...	527	839
Hairdressers	...	...	...	...	...	3	—
Pet Shops	...	...	...	...	...	8	—
Noise	...	...	...	...	...	40	133
Offensive Accumulationss	...	...	...	...	...	36	22
Refuse Removal and Disposal (including dustbins)	...	...	...	...	...	229	—
Salvage	...	...	...	...	...	20	1
Depot Maintenance	...	...	...	...	...	57	—
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	273	1
Number of Interviews	...	...	...	...	...	288	—
						4,869	4,045

Summary of Notices served during the year 1963.

	Preliminary	Statutory
Public Health Act, 1936:		
Nuisance Properties	98	10
Defective Water Closets (Section 45) ...	12	—
Proposed Works of Maintenance on Sewers (Section 24)	—	6
Defective Drains (Section 39)	20	16
Public Health Act, 1961:		
Stopped-up Drains (Section 17)	—	19
Defective Premises (Section 26)	—	1
O.U.D.C. Act, 1929:		
Defective Drains	—	24
Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960 ...	3	—
	<hr/> 133	<hr/> 76

HOUSING.

The Housing Manager's report shows that in December 1963 there were 2,682 persons on the Council's waiting list for municipal dwellings, an increase of 136 on the 1962 figure.

190 new dwellings were completed during the year and 204 of the Council's existing dwellings also became available for re-letting.

An allocation of 134 dwellings was made for rehousing the occupiers of slum clearance houses, which is some 70 per cent. of the new dwellings erected.

Lettings.

Date Order	81
Slum Clearance	134
Special Cases	53
Health Cases	9
After-Care	3
Transfers	84
Left in Occupation	30
	<hr/> 394

Unfit Houses Made Fit and Houses in which Defects were Remedied.

	By Owner	By Local Authority
After informal action by Local Authority ...	146	—
After formal action under:		
(a) Public Health Act, 1936	63	38
(b) Housing Act, 1957	—	—

**Summary of Defects Remedied, Improvements Effected and
Nuisances Abated under the Housing, Public Health
and O.U.D.C. Acts during the year 1963.**

Dwelling Houses:

Roofs repaired	...	...	...	...	...	49
Chimney stacks repointed/repared	...	...	...	...	...	9
Dangerous chimneys rebuilt	...	...	...	...	...	3
Chimney pots provided	...	...	...	...	...	3
Crest tiles repointed/rebedded	...	...	...	...	...	2
Defective spoutings repaired or refixed	...	...	...	...	...	29
New spoutings provided	...	...	...	...	...	11
House brickwork repointed/repared	...	...	...	...	...	5
Dangerous brickwork of walls rebuilt	...	...	...	...	...	3
Walls damp-proofed	...	...	...	...	...	11
Plasterwork repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	31
Firegrates repaired or new provided	...	...	...	...	...	6
Windows made to open	...	...	...	...	...	2
Sash cords provided to windows	...	...	...	...	...	54
Woodwork of windows repaired/renewed	...	...	...	...	...	34
Broken glazing renewed	...	...	...	...	...	2
Sills repaired or new provided	...	...	...	...	...	2
Floors repaired	...	...	...	...	...	18
New floors provided	...	...	...	...	...	3
Staircases repaired	...	...	...	...	...	3
Hot water supply repaired	...	...	...	...	...	2
Woodwork of doors repaired	...	...	...	...	...	13
New doors provided	...	...	...	...	...	1
Verandahs repaired	...	...	...	...	...	4
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	11

Wash-houses, Water Closets, etc.:

Wash-house roofs repaired	15
Wash-house chimneys repointed/rebuilt	...	...	...	...	...	1
Wash-house windows repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	4
Wash-houses reconstructed	...	...	...	...	...	1
Wash boiler furnaces repaired or new provided	...	...	...	...	...	1
Spoutings repaired or new provided	...	...	...	...	...	10
Water closet brickwork repointed/repared	...	...	...	...	...	8
Water closet roofs repaired	...	...	...	...	...	3
New pedestals provided	...	...	...	...	...	18
Water closet seats renewed	...	...	...	...	...	15
Leaking water closet joints repaired	...	...	...	...	...	7
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	5

Drainage and Water Supply:

Obstructed drains cleared	...	...	...	...	...	122
Drains relaid or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	7
Inspection chambers provided	...	...	...	...	...	6
Waste pipes repaired or new provided	...	...	...	...	...	3
Burst water pipes repaired	...	...	...	...	...	23

Food Premises:

Premises cleansed and/or redecorated	...	...	6
Premises repaired	...	...	3
Floor coverings provided	...	...	3
New counters provided and other repaired	...	...	2
Towelling improved	...	...	1
Water closets cleansed and/or repaired	...	...	1
Clean hands notices provided	...	...	2
Miscellaneous	...	...	4

Factories:

Artificial lighting provided	1
------------------------------	-----	-----	---

Other Nuisance:

Offensive accumulations removed	...	...	8
Nuisances from poultry/animals abated	...	...	2
Canals and water courses cleansed	...	...	1

Applications for Certificates of Disrepair.

Number of applications for Certificates	...	...	3
Number of decisions not to issue Certificates	...	...	Nil
Number of decisions to issue Certificates:			
(a) for some defects specified by applicants	...	...	2
(b) for all defects specified by applicants	...	...	1
Number of undertakings refused by Local Authority	...	...	Nil
Number of undertakings given by landlords	...	...	Nil
Number of Certificates issued	...	...	Nil
Number of applications by landlords for cancellation of Certificates	...	...	1
Number of objections by tenants to cancellations of Certificates	...	...	Nil
Decisions by Local Authority to cancel despite tenants' objections	...	...	Nil
Number of Certificates cancelled by Local Authority	...	...	1

Slum Clearance.

35 unfit houses were included in two Clearance Areas during the year and were later included in one comprehensive Compulsory Purchase Order made under the Housing Act, 1957. Included in the Compulsory Purchase Order were one licensed premises and the site of three unfit houses previously dealt with under Section 16 of the Act as individual unfit houses. Confirmation of the Order, with a slight modification only, has been received since the

end of the year but before preparing this report and the one appeal against the Order was disallowed by the Minister of Housing and Local Government.

131 individual unfit houses were represented as being unfit for human habitation (for ultimate demolition) and 24 unfit houses for closing

A total of 191 unfit houses in all were therefore dealt with initially under the Act during the year or 76 more than in 1962, and the highest number in one year by far since the present programme commenced.

The following table summarises action taken during the year 1963. The figures in parenthesis give the total figures since the start of the programme later in 1955 up to the end of 1963:—

Clearance Areas.

Number of Clearance Areas declared	2	(19)
Number of unfit houses included in such areas ...	35	(221)
Number of unfit houses demolished	—	(186)
Number of other houses demolished (“grey” properties)	—	(3)
Number of persons displaced from unfit and other houses (“grey” properties)	1	(624)

Individual Unfit Houses or Parts of Buildings.

(a) For Demolition:

Number of houses represented as unfit	131	(591)
Number of unfit houses demolished	121	(499)
Number of persons displaced from unfit houses ...	349	(1,719)

(b) (i) For Closing (Whole Houses):

Number of houses represented as unfit	24	(84)
Number of unfit houses closed	14	(70)
Number of persons displaced from houses closed	46	(280)
Number of undertakings given to repair and recondition such unfit houses	1	(1)

(ii) For Closing (Part of a Building):

Number of parts of buildings represented as unfit	1	(2)
Number of parts of buildings closed	—	(1)
Number of persons displaced from such buildings	—	(5)

It will be seen from the above table that a total of 898 unfit houses have now been dealt with initially since the present programme was commenced and no less than 2,628 persons have been displaced in the same period. Most of these persons have, of course, been rehoused in municipal dwellings. In the same period

685 unfit houses have been demolished and 71 unfit houses or parts of buildings have been colsed.

There remained 376 houses to be dealt with at the end of the year as compared with 528 at the same time last year.

As a tailpiece to this subject of housing, whilst visiting the houses in a Clearance Area during the year prior to a Public Enquiry, an aged person in one house gave the surprising information that he was looking forward very much to moving into a new Council house for one main reason. In his present house he had no electricity supply whatever and in his new Council house he would certainly have this modern amenity. He would therefore, for the first time, be able to have a television set to while away the hours.

It is said there is a first time for everything and in the thousands of houses I have visited over the years this is the first time I have heard this reason for wishing to move to a new Council dwelling.

Overcrowding.

57 complaints of overcrowding were investigated during the year by Inspectors of the Department. Of these three were found to be overcrowded, either by reference to the standard in Section 77 of the Housing Act, 1957 or on a bedroom basis only.

Council dwellings were allocated to these three families which involved rehousing 12 persons in all.

Improvement Grants.

Work on improving suitable houses continued during the year at a steady rate. 92 applications for standard grants and 6 for discretionary grants were received during the year as compared with a total of 61 in 1962. All the standard grant applications were approved but all the discretionary grant applications had to be refused as the properties were not considered to have the required life of 30 years.

This work is, I think, one of the most satisfying aspects of the Department's work. The applicant is in all cases very satisfied with his improved standard of living and in each case a house has been brought up to a standard which is more in keeping with modern ideas.

It is also undoubtedly a fact that this work of improving houses leads to an improved standard of maintenance which, in the long term, prevents the deterioration of a house into a slum dwelling, thus avoiding the provision of a new Council dwelling in which to rehouse the occupants.

There is a reluctance however for owners to improve tenanted houses, and of the 92 houses for which grants were approved only 27 were for rented property.

	Standard	Discretionary
1. Number of applications received ...	92	6
2. Number of applications approved ...	92	Nil
3. Number of applications refused ...	Nil	6
4. Number of applications not proceeded with by applicants	Nil	Nil
5. Number completed during the year ...	51	—
6. Total amount of grant actually paid during the year	£6,303	—

DRAINAGE, SEWERAGE AND CONSERVANCY.

Thirteen premises in Oldbury are not connected to the public sewer.

The Council's Engineer reports that the second and final stage of the extension to the existing sewage disposal works is now in progress and when complete, in about twelve months time, the works will be capable of treating satisfactorily the sewage to be purified. He also reports that the district's sewerage system is reasonably adequate for its needs.

WATER SUPPLY.

The Borough of Oldbury is provided with water by the South Staffordshire Waterworks Company and this was found to be adequate in quality and quantity throughout the year.

The Engineer-in-Chief of the Waterworks Company reports that the supply to the Borough of Oldbury is derived from 18 pumping stations situated outside the boundaries of the Authority. Chlorination is practised as 15 of these stations.

Of the 152 samples examined during 1963 from the three stations where there is no treatment, 149 were satisfactory.

1,151 samples of the chlorinated water were examined, of which 1,122 were satisfactory.

Samples of the raw water were not obtainable at two of the pumping stations, but of the remainder, 721 samples were analysed of which 689 were satisfactory.

248 samples of a supply of surface origin were also examined prior to treatment and these gave an average coliform bacteria content of 21 per 100 ml.

12 samples from the Ambulance Station, Perrott Street, Oldbury, were all free from coliform bacteria.

Of the 41 samples taken by Inspectors of the Department inside the Borough 3 bacteriological samples were found to be unsatisfactory but, after consultation with the Waterworks Company

who arranged for a thorough flushing and washing out of the mains, joint follow up samples were satisfactory.

The Waterworks Engineer reports that only one of the supplying stations contained any measurable quantity of fluoride. This was at Seedy Mill, where an average of 0.87 p.p.m. was obtained.

Of three samples taken by the Department specially for fluorine content the water was stated by the Public Analyst to contain 0.14, 0.09 and 0.65 p.p.m. of fluorine.

A piped supply of water is supplied directly to 16,312 dwellings and approximately 53,407 persons; 273 dwellings and 873 persons being supplied by means of taps not actually inside the house (e.g. by taps in external wash-houses).

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk Supply.

(a) Licences under the Milk (Special Designation) Regulations continue in force in respect of the following numbers of premises:—

1. Dealers (Pasteurising Plant)	...	...	...	1
2. Dealers				
(a) Pasteurised	...	...	...	16
(b) Tuberculin Tested	...	...	...	8
(c) Sterilised	...	...	...	90
				<hr/>
				115
				<hr/>

(b) The number of registered milk distributors retailing milk in the Borough during the year was 85.

The following samples of milk and cream were taken for bacteriological examination and chemical analysis:—

	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
(a) Milk from the sole pasteurising plant in the Borough—		
(i) for bacteriological examination	37	—
(ii) for chemical analysis	37	—
(b) Cream from a dairy in the Borough carrying out its own separation—		
(i) for bacteriological examination	12	1
(ii) for chemical analysis	14	1
(c) Designated milk taken which originated outside the Borough—		
(i) for bacteriological examination	21	—
(ii) for chemical analysis	13	—
Number of samples of washed milk bottles	68	10

The standard of milk sold in the Borough was extremely good during 1963, all the samples being reported as satisfactory.

One bacteriological and one chemical sample of cream proved unsatisfactory but in both cases the routine follow-up samples were to prescribed standards.

Of the 78 samples of washed bottles taken during the year 10 proved unsatisfactory. The management of the dairy concerned has replaced the washing plant which was of an obsolete type with a modern machine and this is now in operation.

Meat and Foods Inspection.

I am pleased to record that there were no cases of tuberculosis in the cattle slaughtered for food in Oldbury during 1963 at the sole slaughterhouse in the Borough and, in the case of the pigs slaughtered, only three were affected with minor symptoms of this disease.

The incidence of other diseases always fluctuates to some extent due to the fact that the figures in the report include such conditions as pleurisy and pneumonia to which food animals appear to be very prone during certain climatic conditions.

There were two cases of localised cysticercosis and in both cases the carcase and offal were subjected to the approved refrigeration before being passed as fit for human consumption, after condemnation of the affected part(s).

In July, 1963, new Meat Inspection Regulations were made and came into operation on the 1st October last.

These Regulations require, where it is reasonably practicable, any animal slaughtered in a slaughterhouse to be inspected by a Meat Inspector while the carcase is being dressed.

This meant overtime working for the Inspectors of the Department for the first time and this has been done from that date onwards whenever necessary.

Various amendments to the former Meat Regulations were also effected in these new Regulations such as stamping of carcasses after inspection, increase in period of notice of slaughter, charges for meat inspection service, compulsory meat inspection, etc.

One notable omission is that slaughter of animals can still take place at any time of any day of the week, Sundays included. This in fact does happen in Oldbury and, as a result, one Inspector at least works in the slaughterhouse every Saturday and/or Sunday.

It is high time this state of affairs was corrected and brought into line with modern thought.

Carcases and Offal Inspected and Condemned in Whole or in Part.

	Cattle excluding Cows			Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Totals
Number killed	239	1	3	671	473	1,387		
Number inspected	239	1	3	671	473	1,387		
All diseases except tuberculosis and cysticercosis								
(1) Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	—			
(2) Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned...	39	—	—	17	64			
(3) Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis or cysticercosis	16.3	—	—	2.5	13.5			
Tuberculosis only								
(1) Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	—			
(2) Carcase of which some part or organ was condemned...	—	—	—	—	3			
(3) Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	0.63			
Cysticercosis								
(1) Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned...	2	—	—	—	—			
(2) Carcasses submitted for treatment by refrigeration ...	2	—	—	—	—			
(3) Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—			

Meat Inspection, 1963.**Reasons for Condemnation:****(1) Cattle (including calves)**

Disease	Carcasses	Head and Tongue	Lungs	Hearts	Livers	Mesen- Spleens	teries
Cysticercosis ...	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
Abscesses ...	—	—	—	—	4	—	—
Fascioliasis ...	—	—	—	—	15	—	—
Hydatid Cysts ...	—	—	1	—	1	—	—
Telangiectasas ...	—	—	—	—	2	—	—
Pneumonia and Pleurisy	—	—	11	—	—	—	—
Congestion ...	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Peritonitis ...	—	—	—	—	3	1	—
Cirrhosis ...	—	—	—	—	3	—	—
	—	2	13	—	28	1	—

(2) Sheep

Disease	Lungs	Livers	Hearts
Pneumonia and Congestion	4	—	—
Parasitic Infection	4	9	—
Abscesses	—	2	—
	8	11	—

(3) Pigs

Disease	Heads	Lungs	Livers	Hearts	Kidneys
Tuberculosis	3	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia, Congestion and Pleurisy	—	36	—	—	—
Pericarditis	—	—	—	18	—
Parasitic Infection	—	—	12	—	—
Peritonitis	—	—	1	—	—
Hydronephrosis	—	—	—	—	4
Abscesses	2	—	1	—	—
	<u>5</u>	<u>36</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>4</u>

Meat and Other Foods Condemnation for the year 1963.

	T.	C.	Weight	
			Q. Lbs.	Ozs.
Carcase Meat and Offal (from sole private slaughterhouse)	3	3	15 4

Other Foodstuffs:

No. of tins pkts., etc.		T.	C.	Weight	
				Q. Lbs.	Ozs.
141	Meat	3	0	20	2 $\frac{1}{2}$
883	Vegetables	7	1	0	8
308	Fruit	2	3	21	11 $\frac{1}{2}$
78	Fish		1	20	15
19	Stews and Soups			14	3 $\frac{1}{2}$
5	Cream			1	4
3	Fruit Juices			2	12
4	Salmon			1	3 $\frac{1}{4}$
21	Jams/Marmalades			10	12
9	Pies and Puddings			13	8
11	Cream and Milk			8	1 $\frac{1}{2}$
6	Jam			5	10
1	Pies			1	0
2	Crab				5
3	Coffee				6
7	Stewed Steak			6	5 $\frac{1}{4}$
35	Milk			25	6 $\frac{1}{2}$
20	Puddings			20	4 $\frac{1}{2}$
1	Syrup			1	0
18	Cheese		1	15	12
	Ham			9	0
1	Beans				8
3	Jellies				6
12	Corned Beef		1	9	8
85	Tomatoes		1	7	1
13	Luncheon Meat		1	15	8 $\frac{1}{2}$
44	Peas		1	4	7 $\frac{1}{2}$
1	Asparagus Tops				10 $\frac{1}{2}$
			16	2	14 4
	Plus slaughterhouse condemnations		3	3	15 4
	Total	1	0	2	1 8

Food Premises.

The following food businesses were carried on during the year:—

Wholesale grocers	...	...	...	...	...	2
Bakers and confectioners	...	...	...	...	...	3
Dairies	...	...	...	...	...	1
Butchers (including sausage manufacturers)	...	...	...	...	...	52
Grocers (retail)	...	...	...	...	...	136
Greengrocers	...	...	...	...	...	24
Catering establishments (excluding factory canteens)	...	...	...	...	...	16
Industrial canteens	...	...	...	...	...	29
Fish shops (fried)	...	...	...	...	...	15
Sweets, confectionery and ice cream	...	...	...	...	...	59
Fish and greengrocery	...	...	...	...	...	9
Wet fish retailers	...	...	...	...	...	2
Hotels	...	...	...	...	...	4
General	...	...	...	...	...	25
Licensed Premises	...	...	...	...	...	102
Food factories (2 confectionery, 1 vinegar, 1 malt flour)	...	...	...	...	...	4
						<hr/> 483 <hr/>

The following food premises were registered by the Council at the end of the year:—

(a) Under Section 16, Food and Drugs Act, 1955:

Sausage preparation	...	...	...	...	...	3
Ice cream manufacturing	...	...	...	...	...	3
Retail ice cream	...	...	...	...	...	112

(b) Under Milk and Dairies Regulations:

Dairies	1
---------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

(c) Under Section 69, Oldbury Corporation Act, 1949:

Grocers	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Greengrocers	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Butchers	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Ice cream vendors	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Fried fish vendors	...	...	...	...	...	...	1

134 inspections of registered premises (including 39 re-visits) were carried out during the year.

389 visits were made to food premises during the year this being a very slight increase on the number recorded for 1962.

Improvements Effected to Food Premises.

The table below summarises the main improvements effected at food premises during the year:—

Premises cleansed and/or decorated	...	...	...	6
Premises repaired	...	...	...	3
Floor coverings provided	...	...	...	3
New counters provided or repaired	...	...	...	2
Towelling improved	...	...	...	1
Water closets cleansed and/or repaired	...	...	...	1
Clean hands notices provided	...	...	...	2
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	4

127 bacteriological swabs of utensils and equipment in food preparing premises were taken of which 12.5 per cent. were not up to the desired standard.

In every case where unsatisfactory results of swabs are reported visits are made by inspectors to the premises concerned and washing up techniques discussed with the proprietors. Repeat swabs are obtained and steps taken to ensure that all utensils and equipment are washed and sterilised to satisfactory standards.

There is however no doubt that considerable improvement is still possible in this question of the cleansing of food utensils. With the amazing variety of detergents and sterilants now available there is really no reason why crockery, knives, forks, etc., should not be sterile as well as appearing to be clean.

Food Vehicles.

Three food vehicles were registered during the year under the Oldbury Corporation Act, 1949, and the total of registered food hawkers in the district is now 18.

Ice Cream and Lollies.

14 samples of ice cream obtained from ice cream manufacturers in the Borough were found to be bacteriologically and chemically satisfactory.

Nine samples of ice cream manufactured outside the Borough were also satisfactory.

Food and Drugs Sampling.

187 samples of foods and drugs were taken during the year and of these 11 proved unsatisfactory.

Details are given below:—

Sample	Nature	Adulteration	Action Taken
1 (Formal)	Pork Luncheon Meat	Meat content slightly below recommended minimum	Warning letter sent
1 (Informal)	Beefsteak Pudding	ditto	Follow-up sample genuine
1 (Informal)	Chopped Pork and Meat Roll	ditto	Formal sample taken. Meat content slightly below recommended minimum. Warning letter sent
1 (Informal)	Whipping Cream	Fat content below recommended minimum prescribed for double cream	Follow - up sample satisfactory
1 (Informal)	Pork Sausage	Meat content slightly below recommended minimum	Formal sample taken. Meat content slightly below recommended minimum. Warning letter sent
1 (Informal)	Irish Stew	Meat content below recommended minimum	Further informal sample satisfactory
1 (Informal)	Pork Sausage	Meat content slightly below recommended minimum	Follow - up sample satisfactory
1 (Informal)	Pork Sausage	ditto	Formal sample taken. Meat content satisfactory
1 (Informal)	Casserole Steak	ditto	No further stocks of this brand have yet been found for re-sampling

The total number of samples taken for chemical analysis was:

Articles Supplied	No. of Samples	Articles Supplied	No. of Samples
Apple Flakes	1	Jelly	2
Baby Food	4	Lemon Juice	1
Beef Curry	1	Margarine	1
Butter	1	Meat—canned	14
Cake Mix	3	Meat Paste	4
Cheese Spread	1	Meat Pie	1
Chocolate	1	Meat Puddings	5
Cornflour	1	Milk	50
Cough Remedies	5	Mixed Spice	1
Cream	16	Nutmeg	1
Chicken—minced	2	Olive Oil	1
Desiccated Coconut	1	Pills	4
Diet Food	1	Pork Pie	1
Drugs	3	Rennet Essence	1
Eucalyptus Oil	1	Rice Pudding	1
Fish—canned	2	Sausage	15
Fish Paste	6	Sausage Rolls	1
Flavourings	3	Soup	4
Flour	1	Suet	1
Ground Ginger	2	Sweets	3
Hamburgers	1	Tomato Puree	1
Honey	3	Trifle	1
Ice Cream	6	Turkey—minced	1
Ice Pops	2	Vegetable Salad	1
Jam and Marmalade	3		

Total ... 187

Unsound or Unsatisfactory Food.

The following six cases of unsound or unsatisfactory food were reported or discovered during the year.

One prosecution was taken and the case against the firm concerned was dismissed but an employee of the firm was fined £3.

Nature of Contamination/Unsoundness				Action Taken
1.	Mouldy pork pie	...	...	Firm prosecuted—employee fined £3.
2.	Dirty buns	...	...	Firm given warning.
3.	Wire in biscuit	...	...	Firm given warning.
4.	Mouldy cake	...	...	Firm given warning.
5.	Metal in a bun	...	...	Firm given warning.
6.	Mouldy minced beef (perforated tin)...			Firm given warning.

As I have said in previous Annual Reports, occurrences of this nature are rather disturbing when one considers the general improvements that have taken place in food hygiene over the past few years. Cases like those in 1, 2 and 4 above seem to me to be really indefensible.

FACTORIES ACT, 1961.

I give below the usual statistics relating to this subject.

Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

<i>Premises</i> (1)	<i>Number on Register</i> (2)	<i>Inspections</i> (3)	<i>Number of Written Notices</i> (4)	<i>Occupiers Prosecuted</i> (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ...	7	—	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ...	205	13	1	—
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises) ...	13	8	—	—
	<u>225</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>—</u>

Cases in which Defects were found.

<i>Particulars</i> (1)	<i>Found</i> (2)	<i>Remedied</i> (3)	<i>Referred To H.M. Inspector</i> (4)	<i>By H.M. Inspector</i> (5)	<i>Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted</i> (6)
Sanitary Conveniences (Section 7).					
(a) Insufficient ...	1	1	—	1	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork) ...	1	1	—	1	—
	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>—</u>

OUTWORK.

<i>Nature of Work</i> (1)	<i>No. of Out-workers in August list required by Section 133</i> (1) (c)	<i>No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council</i> (3)	<i>No. of Prosecutions for failure to supply lists</i> (4)	<i>No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises</i> (5)	<i>Notices Served</i> (6)	<i>Prosecutions</i> (7)
Wearing apparel (making) ...	6	—	—	—	—	—
The making of boxes or other receptacles or parts thereof made wholly or partially of paper ...	2	—	—	—	—	—
	8	—	—	—	—	—

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

No nuisance was observed at the two offensive trade premises in the Borough during the year.

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT.

The number of slaughtermen's licences issued during the year was six.

AIR POLLUTION.**Improvements in Industrial Pollution.**

Premises	Source of Air Pollution	Action Taken
Plastic works	Dark smoke and fumes from the incineration of plastic waste	Arrangements made for the disposal of plastic waste by tipping
Distillery premises	Dark smoke from hand-fired boilers	Conversion to oil firing
Sweet factory	Dark smoke from 2 vertical boilers	The installation of over-fire air jets
Asphalt works	Dust emission from crushing plant	The provision of a wet washer to the crusher

Domestic Smoke.

The Oldbury No. 2 (Cakemore) Smoke Control Area, comprising 775 dwellings, two schools and 11 other buildings, came into operation on the 1st September, 1963. A small number of complaints and queries were received by the Department but these were mainly settled by demonstrating the correct techniques of burning smokeless solid fuel and the area now appears to be running smoothly.

An application was made for an exemption in respect of the heating boiler at Perryfields County Primary School in the Brand-

hall Smoke Control Area in order that the burning of bituminous coal by means of an underfeed stoker with overfire air jets could be permitted. It had been found that this boiler, although smokeless in operation when burning Welsh Dry Steam coal, was uneconomical due to the crushing of the fuel in the underfeed stoker and because of the rapid and frequent burning out of the tuyeres.

An Order, known as the Oldbury No. 3 (Perryfields School) Smoke Control Variation Order, 1963 has now been confirmed by the Minister and the necessary alterations to the heating plant will be undertaken during the summer of 1964.

Measurement of Pollution.

The figures for 1963 for grit and dust emission, sulphur dioxide and smoke, are given in the following tables:—

Deposit Gauges (deposited matter in tons/sq. mile).

Month		Albright School	Perryfields Schools	"Edale" Wolver- hampton Road	100 Wallace Road
January	... ..	12.18	—	16.67	15.28
February	... ..	6.99	—	12.32	13.40
March	... ..	20.93	14.99	39.49	39.10
April	... ..	24.04	14.61	41.76	36.68
May	... ..	30.79	15.51	717.12	47.22
June	... ..	34.35	15.54	52.30	51.44
July	... ..	13.82	7.09	44.02	45.35
August	... ..	28.27	14.55	77.51	39.17
September	... ..	18.44	7.58	41.34	28.94
October	... ..	18.92	13.20	38.90	40.50
November	... ..	22.13	11.98	1050.30	32.66
December	... ..	18.19	12.05	36.63	19.57
Totals	... ..	249.05	127.10	2168.36	409.31
Averages	... ..	20.81	12.71	181.5	34.10

Lead Peroxide Instruments.

(Weight of Sulphur Trioxide collected in mg/100 cm².)

Month			Albright School	Langley Park	Perryfields Schools
January	... ..	...	5.32	4.40	4.90
February	... ..	...	5.76	—	6.45
March	... ..	...	4.31	2.32	3.01
April	... ..	...	3.84	1.71	2.49
May	... ..	...	3.60	1.20	1.40
June	... ..	...	3.56	1.09	1.40
July	... ..	...	2.51	0.67	0.61
August	... ..	...	2.76	0.95	0.83
September	... ..	...	2.94	0.99	1.03
October	... ..	...	3.27	1.46	1.15
November	... ..	...	3.85	2.06	1.33
December	... ..	...	4.07	3.25	3.57
Totals	... ..	...	45.79	20.10	28.17
Averages	... ..	...	3.81	1.84	2.36

Daily Volumetric Smoke and Sulphur Dioxide Apparatus.

(Smoke and Sulphur Dioxide expressed in microgrammes per cu.m.)

Month		Smoke Aver- age	Highest Day	Sulphur Dioxide Aver- age	Highest Day	Smoke/Sulphur Dioxide Ratio
January	...	264	444	323	598	0.81
February	...	285	581	359	678	0.79
March	...	136	542	129	246	1.05
April	...	96	167	149	373	0.64
May	...	59	103	112	194	0.53
June	...	54	119	102	211	0.53
July	...	53	201	93	205	0.57
August	...	54	101	91	163	0.59
September	...	94	207	130	243	0.72
October	...	116	309	86	193	1.36
November	...	138	306	95	198	1.45
December	...	301	610	186	397	1.65
Averages	...	137.5	307.5	154.5	308.25	0.89

The usual fluctuations occurred in the figures showing atmospheric pollution but these are so small as to be insignificant except in the case of the deposit gauge figures for Edale, Wolverhampton Road where, due to two high readings, the average is considerably higher than in 1962.

This gauge, together with that at 100 Wallace Road monitors the dust deposit from a nearby tarmacadam works where the type of process is such that some dust emission is almost inevitable. The dust deposits in May and November were very excessive however, and when one considers that the dust recorded in November for instance, is in excess of thirty-six times as much as the average for that time of year one cannot dismiss the possibility that the dust deposit gauge was interefered with, possibly by children.

The tarmacadam works have, however, been visited and work carried out to secure more adequate dust arrestation during the processing and also to modify the tipping arrangements to ensure that the minimum amount of disturbance occurs at the face of the slag tip during tipping or excavation.

RODENT CONTROL.

The usual treatment of sewers for the control of rodents was carried out duting the year and for the first time fluoroacetamide was used as the rodenticide. The whole operation was conducted by a private firm under the supervision of an Inspector of the Department and the results were satisfactorily carried out at a most reasonable cost.

Prevention of Damage by Pests' Act, 1949.

	TYPE OF PROPERTY				
	Local Authority	Non-Agricultural Dwelling Houses (incl. Council Houses)	All Other (incl. Business Premises)	Total of Cols. (1) (2) & (3)	Agric- ultural
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
1. Number of properties in Local Authority's district	41	16,424	1,350	17,815	—
2. Total number of properties inspected as a result of notification	22	291	90	403	—
Number of such properties found to be infested by:—					
Common Rat—Major	—	—	—	—	1
Minor	5	208	52	265	—
Ship Rat—Major	—	—	—	—	—
Minor	—	—	—	—	—
House Mouse—Major	—	—	—	—	—
Minor	16	49	42	107	—
3. Total number of properties inspected in the course of survey under the Act	—	54	9	63	—
Number of such properties found to be infested by:—					
Common Rat—Major	—	—	—	—	—
Minor	—	27	7	34	—
Ship Rat—Major	—	—	—	—	—
Minor	—	—	—	—	—
House Mouse—Major	—	—	—	—	—
Minor	—	6	1	7	—
4. Total number of <i>properties otherwise inspected</i> (e.g. when visited for some other purpose)	49	868	353	1,270	—
Number of such properties found to be infested by:—					
Common Rat—Major	—	—	—	—	—
Minor	4	9	11	24	—
Ship Rat—Major	—	—	—	—	—
Minor	—	—	—	—	—
House Mouse—Major	—	—	—	—	—
Minor	3	27	19	49	—
5. Total inspections carried out, including re-inspections	111	1,903	653	2,667	—
6. Number of <i>infested properties</i> (in Sections II, III & IV) treated by the Local Authority	28	319	128	475	—
7. Total treatments carried out, including re-treatments	31	332	141	504	—

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949—(cont.)

	TYPE OF PROPERTY				Agricultural
	Local Authority	Non-Agricultural Dwelling Houses (incl. Council Houses)	All other (incl. Business Premises)	Total of Cols. (1) (2) and (3)	
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
8. Number of notices served under Section 4 of the Act:—					
(a) Treatment	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Structural Works (e.g. Proofing)	—	—	—	—	—
9. Number of cases in which default action was taken following the issue of a notice under Section 4 of the Act	—	—	—	—	—
10. Legal Proceedings	—	—	—	—	—
11. Number of "Block" control schemes carried out	—	—	—	—	—

NOISE ABATEMENT.

Numerous and varied complaints of noise have been received during the year and after investigation by Inspectors of the Department informal action has, in most cases, provided an amicable solution to the problems.

One of the major sources of industrial noise in the Midlands is, of course, the noise produced during the manufacture of drop forgings and following a petition from residents in this area concerning such a nuisance an investigation was carried out.

The result of the investigation was to agree that the petitioners had some cause for complaint but having regard to the specialist nature of the industry concerned and the difficulty in assessing the "best practicable means" for abating any proved nuisance, the Council decided to employ an Acoustic Consultant.

The Consultant's report was awaited at the end of the year.

CANAL BOATS.

Twenty-two canal boats remain registered with this Authority, no applications being received for new registrations.

There were no problems arising from the administration of the Public Health Acts and Canal Boats Regulations during the year.

VERMINOUS PREMISES.

Eight houses were treated for infestations during the year, five of the treatments being to municipal dwellings.

This again is a reduction in the number of infested premises brought to our attention and I have no doubt that this is due to the better living standards being enjoyed and to a willingness on the part of most people to eradicate vermin themselves with the modern insecticides available.

PUBLIC SWIMMING BATHS.

Ten bacteriological and ten chemical samples of water from the two pools at the Vicarage Road swimming baths were all found to be satisfactory.

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951.

The three pet shops in the district were inspected and found to be satisfactory and licences were issued for 1963.

COMMON LODGING-HOUSES.

There are no common lodging houses in the Borough.

STAFF.

There was only one change in the staff of the Department during the year. Miss V. Wallace, Shorthand/Typist, left to work in industry on the 10th December, 1963, and this position remained vacant at the end of the year now under review.

Attempts were again made on two occasions during the year, in July and November, to fill the two vacancies for Public Health Inspectors which had existed since mid-1962. The advertisements again produced no results and the Department was still below strength throughout the whole year.

Despite this shortage of Inspectors work continued steadily throughout the period, as this report amply illustrates.

CONCLUSION.

Finally I record my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee and my colleagues in other Departments for their help in the many problems associated with the work of the Department during the year.

My special thanks are due to the former Chairman of the Public Health Committee, Alderman F. W. Thompson, J.P., who has now vacated the chair. He was at all times most co-operative and helpful. What I particularly appreciated was his readiness to meet me at any time and discuss matters where I needed his support. I sincerely hope that the many discussions we had were as helpful to him as they were to me.

I cannot close this report without expressing my sincere thanks to the staff of my own Department for their work during the year. Both the Inspectors and the clerical staff have at all times always done their best both for the public and myself, services which I feel sure have also been to the benefit of the Council.

I am,

Madam Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

W. J. MASON,

Chief Public Health Inspector.

Municipal Buildings, Oldbury.

July, 1964.

NOTE—As in previous years, a separate Annual Report will be published later on the Public Cleansing Service, for which I am also responsible, and this will follow when the necessary statistical information is available.